THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1878.

Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL.....13-4.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 18TH FEBRUARY.

A CORRESPONDENT, who signs himself a poor Bundelkhandi, thus writes to us about the distress prevailing in Banda and the neighbourhood:

"I am afraid you are not aware of the state in which we are in. The distress is prevailing here terribly. Things are getting daily worse and worse; prices are rising enormously high. Crime is also on the increase. Robberies, dacoities and thefts are now heard of daily. The offenders are helpless, because they cannot find any employment. They find hard to keep their body and soul together. Hitherto we managed somehow; the wild *Bers* or plums were very plentiful. We used to appease our hunger with these and the *chiar-ki-bhaji*, but, alas! they are now over. What are we to do now? The rich people do not give us alms now-a-days even in the shape of a handful of grain. They dont listen to our cries, when we go to their doors they spurn us and drive us with the words "hoot-hoot" *chalo chalo giklo niklo nechi mileja jao jao*. We cannot blame them too. They themselves are unable to meet their wants decently. The Government has not as yet opened any relief works for us. Is it not high time that some should be opened soon, in order to save us. Mr. Editor, I tell you by every thing that is holy to me that we are realy starving. Why the Government does not commence the Banda and Man Rajpur Railway as a kind of relief work at once and thus relieve the poor by this means? Will you please move the Government for the sake of suffering humanity to take early measures for the alleviation of our distress, otherwise it may be too late. I do not wish to lengthen this more but to conclude by giving the following table of prices of articles of food for your information.

Price current for the fortnight ending 31st January, 1878.
Banda Bazar.

Articles.	31st January, 1878.	31st January, 1877.
	M. S. Ch.	M. S. Ch.
Wheat	0 12 12	0 23 8
Barley	0 14 0	0 38 0
Rice-best	0 7 0	0 16 0
Do. common	0 8 4	0 24 8
Bajra	0 13 8	0 35 0
Jowar	0 14 0	0 38 0
Gram	0 14 0	0 38 8
Arhardal	0 12 4	0 28 8
Urd do.	0 9 8	0 27 0
Maug do.	0 9 8	0 28 0
Ghi	0 1 15	0 2 1
Gur	0 9 8	0 14 0
Sarson	0 12 0	0 14 0
Grass	2 30 0	6 0 0
Bhusa	1 10 0	3 10 0

Since then the prices have risen more. Wheat is selling at 11 seers, gram 12 seers, jowar 13 seers, in short the prices of all things are equal as the Hindi adage goes "*Sab dhan bara passeri*". Nothing can be had more than 13 seers to the rupee. And besides the grains are daily exported to other places. Hitherto they used to go towards the west, now they are going towards Raut and other places in that direction.

What is Sir George Couper about? The Government is imposing famine taxation, but here the people are starving for want of food.

A CORRESPONDENT, who does not authenticate his letter, says:

"Your correspondent is wrong in saying that the sale of the Putnee Taluk of Comul Chuck was, owing to the mismanagement of the late Pran Nath Chowdry's Estate. The default, if any, in the payment of the rents of the Taluk was made by the co-sharers of the estate, and not by the estate itself. Had you been put in possession of all the facts connected with the sale, you would not have given publicity to the captious and fallacious statements of your correspondent, who does not evidently bear good will or charitable feeling towards the managing staff of the estate."

A NATIVE GENTLEMAN, who knows what's what, has recorded the following opinion on the Treasure Trove Bill:

"Doubtless the avowed object of the law is the preservation of objects of "antiquarian and historical interest"; but the rules it provides cannot but have a contrary effect. The limit of Rs. 25 is too low. It should be at least a thousand; and the distinction made between "amount in value" in section 4 and "intrinsic value" in sec 6, is unfair. The value of a perfect tetradrachma of Escontedes is 50 to 80 Rs. and one of Alexander was lately purchased by the British Museum for Rs. 500. Under sec 4 such a coin must be submitted to the district collector, who under sec 6 may buy it for the value of four drachmas of silver plus one fifth, *i e* about one rupee and twelve annas, deducting therefrom the cost of advertisement stamps &c. The man must be a fool who would under the circumstances come to the collector, instead of consigning the coin to the melting pot. The Asiatic Society once bought a copper Amyntas for Rs. 16, and a copper Vorones for a like sum. Two such coins to the finder would be worth Rs. 32., but the collector may take them for one pice minus the advertisement charges. Instead of going through the trouble of hanging about the collector for six months the finder would in all human probability pitch the coin into the nearest ditch. The penal clauses in such cases would be of no avail whatever. They cannot be brought to bear in such cases, for discoveries are made accidently, and few come to know when one is made, proof therefore will be generally wanting. On the other hand, in the hands of the penal police, we believe they will prove fruitful engines of oppression amidst a timid suspicious race, cut off altogether from their rulers by differences of religion, race, manners, customs and habits, the law should be liberal and not offensively stringent.

THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT reports on the districts of Ganjam and Vizagapatam that there is at present no cause for special anxiety but that their prospects appear uncertain. Both districts are being carefully watched.

FRESH ORDERS have been issued by the Madras Government to insure the greatest care being taken in stopping relief, and to enforce proper control and frequent supervision by European officers in certain cases where it is doubtful if that has been as thoroughly carried out as is desirable.

FROM NORTH ARCOT it is reported that the improvement in the state of the people is distinct though gradual, but likely to continue much the same until the price of grain falls.

THE GOLD MINES in Wynaad appear to have turned out lately on an average of 3 dwts of gold per ton; though larger returns than 7 dwts have been obtained at times but without regularity, it is considered that 3 dwts per ton should be sufficient to make the works pay while the cost of working is small and water ower employed. The Companies are at present working nearly at the surface, where native workers had been before them, and the machinery is inefficient and poor. The question is whether the richness of the "underlie" is sufficient to cover the expenses of working by skilled hands and valuable and expensive machinery for deeper mining.

TUESDAY, 19TH FEBRUARY.

SOME PARSI GENTLEMEN are preparing to proceed to Europe, with the object of being present at the opening of the Paris Exhibition.

THE ROMAN CATHOLICS have nearly completed their great cathedral at New York. It has been nearly twenty years in progress, the foundation stone having been laid in 1858. It is 334 feet long. There are 103 windows, and the spire which, however, will not be finished for three years will be 385 feet high. The cost of the work thus far is above £300,000.

THE LONDON EXAMINER thus remarks on the remonelization of silver in America: "We cannot help noting that the change will be distinctly beneficial to some, though not to all, British interests. It would come opportunely for British India, the financial embarrassments of which, with the consequent necessity of an increase in the salt-tax in certain provinces, and the imposing of a license-tax, are due in part to the depreciation in the price of silver. If the fall in silver could be arrested, the new taxation might be saved." The exchange difficulty is the greatest difficulty of Indian finance Perhaps the whole additional taxation could be saved, if loss by exchange could be avoided.

A CURIOUS work has just been published in Leipzig with the title, 'A Wagner Lexicon-Dictionary of Incivility, containing coarse, scornful, odious, and slanderous expressions which have been used against Meister Richard Wagner, his works and his disciples, by enemies and railers, collected for the mind's amusement in idle hours by Wilhelm Tappert.' The ingenious opportunities offered to a Modern "School of Abuse" by such a work must be very temporary.

THE NORTH-WEST GOVERNMENT has sanctioned the levy of the following taxes on game brought for sale or sold within the limits of the Fyzabad Municipality during the "close" season, *i. e.*, between the 1st April and 31st August of each year, viz.:—On every partrige 8 annas: on every hare Re 1: on every peafowl Rs. 2. As there is no game law in India, may we ask what is the authority for the game tax in Fyzabad?

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, in the Public Works Department, have sanctioned an additional grant of seven lakhs of rupees from extraordinary funds, during the current official year, for the extension of the Northern Bengal State Railway from Julpigoree to Silligoree, on the understanding that the interest on the additional grant will be payable by the Bengal Provincial service.

WEDNESDAY, 20TH FEBRUARY.

THE LONDON CORRESPONDENT of the *Indian Daily News* has the following:

"General disgust is expressed in decent circles here at the conduct of the *Whitehall Review* in publishing, in its current number, some most obscene articles, one of which is entitled "Androgyxites" and the other "Pillows for all Arm Holes." The first of these articles refers to a class of persons whose sins against nature are never even named amongst decent people, Whilst the second article is devoted to the description of representative specimens of the London courtesan. I don't, for obvious reasons wish to make any extract from either of these articles but just to give your readers some idea of the brutal coarseness with which the article which treats of the London courtesan is written, I may mention that the writer of it actually describes Burlington Arcade as "*the principal flesh market of the metropolis*," and then proceeds to retail a story of some Cabinet Minister who said; but, act I think I had really better not tell your readers what this precious Cabinet Minister (name unknown) said! In another article, in the same number of the *Whitehall Review*, a comparison is actually instituted between the Queen's youngest son and Our Lord. Both are impartially described as "Princes" by the writer, and the article is closed with a blasphemous allusion to the Crown of Thorns. The *Whitehall Review* is always boasting that it is a "Society" journal, but I would fain hope, for the credit of "Society," that after the publication of the articles to which I am referring, it will not long remain one.

THE STATUE of the late John Stuart Mill has at last been placed upon the Thames Embankment, and will be formally unveiled soon.

THE PIONEER asserts that "a better understanding has been established between the India and the War Offices than has existed for some years past. The belligerents have agreed upon an armistice founded upon a previous agreement as to essential points. For the future, India will be less heavily handicapped, and will be required to bear no larger a share of the imperial military expenditure than justly and reasonably belongs to her. The current year will witness a marked change in this respect, we hear." We do not believe this statement. Lord George Hamilton in the recent debate in the House of Commons on Public Works did not hold out any such hope.

THE AUTHORITIES have had for some time under consideration the question of how the rolling stock of Indian railways can be best adapted for the rapid and easy conveyance of troops in emergency, without interfering with the ordinary requirements of passenger and goods traffic. Beyond doubt railways properly used more than doubles the striking power of our army in this country. The advantage of a uniform character of rolling stock on all lines is obvious. The necessities of famine relief have lately shown this out very prominently. A large amount of rolling stock for State Railways is now constructed on a settled pattern. The alterations required in ordinary carriages at present are very slight. The dimensions of the covered goods wagon will be sufficiently increased to admit of four horses being loaded in the width of the wagon; and in the *3rd* class passenger stock the interior fittings are to be made moveable, side openings arranged so as to allow of the entrance of a dooly and extra fittings to admit of the carriage being used for the conveyance of sick and wounded. Military time-tables are being drawn up with the aid of the railway authorities so that on any sudden emergency all necessary calculations will be to hand, the traffic managers will know the probable wants of the military staff who on their side will know what can be fairly expected to be done, be able to estimate the time required for movements and arrange accordingly without fear of confusion at a critical moment.

THE ARRIVAL of an English trading steamer at Tobolsk in Siberia is the first fruit commercially of the recent attempt to obtain access by a North-East passage to the mouths of the Siberian rivers. Passing up the Obe this ship has entered the Irtysh River which itself rises in the Central plateau of Asia not far from the scene of the late Chinese operations about Manas, and is navigable for small craft at least as far south as Semipalatinsk, which is thus placed in communication by a water-route with London. The sugar which formed the chief part of the cargo brought by this pioneer vessel, was being sold at Tobolsk at but little over one-third of the price at which the inhabitants had hitherto been supplied. A return Cargo hides, tallow and food-grains (the latter at the almost incredibly cheap rate of 144 lbs per Rupee, 15 to 20 copecks per pud of 36-1lbs) had been obtained by the enterprising English trader. The drawback to any development of this trade, however, seems to be the difficulty of returning to England the same season, though perhaps this may be overcome when the navigation is better known.

THURSDAY, 21ST FEBRUARY.

THE EDITOR of the *Calcutta Review* requests us to state that he has deemed it right to tender to the

Calcutta Bar an apology for certain unwarrantable imputations against the Indian Bar which were unwittingly allowed to appear in an article in the last number of the *Review*.

THE WEATHER and crop account from the Central Provinces dated the 18th instant, reports clear and cool mornings and evenings. Rabi cutting continues, wheat and linseed pulses injured in some places by blight frost, insects especially at Seoni where rabi prospects are poor; general prospects fair. Prices risen considerably owing to large exports towards Bombay and the North Western Provinces.

THE ANNUAL report on the administration of the Salt and Continental Customs Department of the Bombay Presidency for the year 1876-77 shows a decrease in the total revenue of the Department in comparison with that of the preceding year of Rs. 9,24,278.

WE UNDERSTAND that Mr. Pogson, the Government, Astronomer, Madras, has lately completed a laborious series of observations of the planet Mars in opposition, made with a view to determining the true mean distance of the sun from the earth.

AN EXAMINATION will take place in November next, at the India Office, London, for the purpose of selecting five young men to be trained in France for the Forest Service of India.

WE UNDERSTAND that as the apparent result of certain representations made by Mr. Routledge enquiries have been, and are still, proceeding, on the subject of localities suitable for the establishment of manufactories for bamboo paper stock in India. Mr. Routledge has expressed his readiness when the question is further advanced to visit India personally in order to select the localities suitable for the purpose in view, and in the meantime he has applied, through Agents in India, for grants of land in the Central Provinces and British Burma.

WE UNDERSTAND that the Secretary of State has rejected the memorial made by certain merchants, traders, and other citizens of Bombay, protesting against the construction of the Prince's Dock.

WE HEAR that directions have been issued for forwarding to India at an early date a number of sounding and dredging appliances, recommended to be procured by Lieutenant Irrad of the Marine Survey Department, for the purpose of conducting a physical examination of the Indian Seas by means of deep sea dredging and sounding.

FRIDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY.

IT APPEARS that the efforts to utilize the results of the Bombay Revenue Settlements Survey, by incorporation into the work of the Topographical Surveyors have not been successful. According to the latest official report (that for 1875-76) the average cost of this combined operation during that year had been above that of a fresh survey conducted on rigorous principles, and the measurements of the two surveys shew serious discrepancies.

DURING the official year 1875-76 three parties of the Great Trigonometrical Survey Department brought their work to a conclusion. One of these undertakings consisted of the Ceylon connecting series, by which Major Branfill has successfully established a connexion between the Geodetic measurements of India and Ceylon.

AN UNPRETENDING little brochure has been placed in our hands, which is a sequel of the celebrated story of Nala Damayanti rendered in a dramatic form in Bengali under the title of "Anand Milan." It has we are told obtained great popularity and is frequently acted on the stage of the National Theatre. The production does credit to its young author.

THE FOLLOWING is an abstract of the conditions on which candidates may be employed in the Forest Department commencing with the post of Sub-Assistant Conservator on a salary of Rs. 200:

Candidates should personally submit their applications, testimonials and certificates to the Conservator of Forest, Deputy Conservator or Superintendent of Forest Surveys. Except in special cases no candidates will be accepted, who are under 18 and above 25 year of age. They must satisfy the conservator that they are of active habits, possess good eye-sight, fair powers of observation, sense of locality and other general qualifications likely to make them useful forest officers as well as of satisfactory moral character. Their education must be such as to enable them to maintain their position among civil officers and the officers of their own department. In the event of the officers above named being satisfied that the candidate is likely to be a useful Forest Officer, he will forward the application and paper to the Government of India through the proper channel, liberty being given to most officers to decline forwarding the application without assigning any reason. The confidential report of the subordinate officer may, with the permission of the local Government or administration, be sent direct to the Inspector General of Forests. In special cases the application for employment may be made direct to the Inspector General of Forests, who will deal with it exactly as the Conservator or Superintendent of Forest Surveys. The papers to be submitted by the candidates shall comprise a statement of their names, parentage and certificate of birth, a statement of the schools or colleges or other establishments of their education a statement of their employment in India and testimonials of their service and character, a medical certificate of health and constitution; a certificate of being passed examination in Hindustani by the lower standard or Burmese or Canarese, if the candidate be selected for Burma or Mysore; a certificate of qualification in surveying by the lower standard. In the case of candidates who have passed the final examination as Assistant Engineers in the Roorkee College and of those from the Survey Department the surveying qualification certificates will be dispensed with, but the latter must produce a certificate from his department, shewing the extent of his qualifications in these branches of field and office work including map drawing with which he is acquainted. In the case of candidates whose applications may be accepted their names will be registered and they may be appointed in the event of vacancies occurring. But registration does not carry with it any promise of appointment. They will begin with the rank of Sub-Assistant Conservator of Forests on probation and will receive salary at the rate of Rs. 200 per month. In special cases passed candidates of the Roorkee College will be appointed in anticipation of their passing in Hindustani, but during this period they will draw pay at Rs. 150 per month. Half-yearly reports of the progress and qualifications of the probationers will be submitted to Government either with a recommendation for confirmation or for removal. Promotion to the grade of Assistant Conservators must be preceded by further examination in languages or other subjects.

We have made the above abstract for the benefit of our young countrymen, who may be desirous to enter the Forest Service.

A CORRESPONDENT from Chundernagore relates the wonderful recovery of a young woman, who had been brought for cremation to the river-side from Senati, a village in the Hooghly District. She had been left on the bank of the river, and was seen the next morning moving and shewing symptoms of returning life.

A CORRESPONDENT notices a serious inconvenience experienced by the people of Bankura. The District Judge, not having sufficient work to keep him engaged throughout the year, is frequently absent on other public duties, and the result is that in emergent cases, such as summary appeals to stay execution and other similar references, there is no competent judicial officer to attend to them. This is the fruit of Sir George Campbell's measure to relegate Bankurah to the status of a second class district.

A CORRESPONDENT complains that the Court of Wards, on the recommendation of the Collector of Midnapore, has appointed a Mr. Deveno as manager of the estates of the Raja of Moisadul, though there were several native candidates of superior qualifications.

A REPORT from the Frontier states that some of the independent tribes, such as the people of Tirah and Khyber lately addressed the Amir of Cabul attributing the ruin of the Jowakis to him, as it was through his instigation and promises of aid that they commenced hostilities against the British Government. They are further reported as having said that if the Amir does not now assist the Jowakis he need not expect aid from them in maintaining the Fort at Ali Musjid.

A FRONTIER report mentions the death of the Akoond of Kohatta in the Yusuf Zai Sub Division in the Peshawar District. This man was the head of Wahabis and his loss is said to be greatly lamented by his religious followers.

WE UNDERSTAND that the Maharani Rajrup Kuar of Ticari in Gya has given Rs. 12,000 as a donation to the charitable dispensary in Ticari; Rs. 16,000 for raising and metalling the Gya branch road between Fullapore and Ticari and Rs. 5,000 to the Industrial School.

A TELEGRAM from the Resident at Aden states that Dr. Kirk reports the death on the 19th December at Ugogo, of Consul Elton and the safe arrival of the others at Zanzibar. The deaths of Crespel and Mals of the Belgian expedition at Zanzibar is also reported.

A RUMOUR lately received from Candahar states that a messenger had arrived at Candahar from the Amir of Cabul to Sultan Mahomed Khan conveying instructions to that official to collect six lakhs of rupees. The money was collected subsequently and horses were forcibly seized for its conveyance to Cabul.

THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT have called upon Collectors of districts for a return of the estimated cultivation and yield of crops within their circuits, with a view of assisting the Government to forecast the prospects of the year 1878, and the advisability of the continuance of large relief works to avoid the necessity for regular relief measures.

A REPORT from the Dharampuri Taluk of the Salem Collectorate, gives an unfavorable account of the present state and prospects of the district. At the same time the Famine Relief Officer considers that the gratuitous relief or "money-dole" as at present distributed should be discontinued, because he finds it is practically limited to the habitual paupers, or those who would be styled in England the work-house population, and who are always dependent on other for support, and there is no reason to suppose that those who have ordinarily borne this expense will be in a better position than at present for some time; also that the benefit it confers on a few recipients does not compensate for the bad moral effect it has upon the community at large. He is of opinion that if continued it should be given like a pension by one monthly payment. The occasional extraordinary expense of the present system is illustrated by the statement that in one case an inspector has to be kept on at 15 Rs. per month to distribute Rs. 24 per month to 4 men and 16 women in a range of 37 villages.

SATURDAY, 23RD FEBRUARY.

WE ARE sorry to record the death of Babu Khelut Chunder Ghose, which melancholy event occured on Monday last. The deceased was a Justice of the Peace and Honorary Magistrate of Calcutta, and used to take much interest in his judicial work. He was also the founder of the Sonatan Dhurma Rukshini Sabha, which was mainly supported by him.

WE UNDERSTAND that His Honor the Lieutenant Governor will pay a visit to Orissa, and leaves on the 27h instant. His Honor's chief object is to examine a scheme of a navigation canal, which it is estimated will cost about 33 lacs of rupees. If this work be executed it is believed that the journey from Calcutta to Cuttuck by boats will be a matter of 45 hours.

WE HEAR that the next Convocation of the Calcutta University will be held on Saturday the 9th proximo. The Vice-Chancellor will preside.

THE BANK OF BENGAL has again raised the rate of interest by one per cent.

WE ARE sorry to record the death of Mr. C. Candaswamy Mudelly, Junior Magistrate of Police, Madras. He was an able officer, and his death is regretted by a large circle of friends and admirers.

WITH reference to some articles which have appeared in the *Indian Daily News* on an unpublished minute of Sir Andrew Clarke, we see it stated that the minute referred to is a confidential one, and is still under the consideration of the Government of India. Its publication was entirely unauthorised, and must have involved a breach of confidence, into which enquiry is being made. It is specially to be deplored, it is added, as likely in this particular case, to give rise to expectations which may very possibly never be realised. For our part we do not, however, think that the publication of the minute is reprehensible. We do not see why public documents of the kind should be concealed from the public.

WE UNDERSTAND that the appeal preferred to the Privy Council against the decision of the Judicial Commissioner of the Central Provinces in the matter of the right of Government to assess revenue on the land held by Mr. E. Chambers in the Civil Station of Nagpore has been withdrawn.

WE HAVE seen the medals presented to Dr. Showrendra Mohun Tagore by the late Pope and the King of Sweden. The one is silver and the other gold. Both the medals are pretty, particularly the gold medal.

WHAT we had stated three months ago is about to pass. Mr. Charles will be appointed a Judge in the Mofusil, Mr. Marsden will be appointed Chief Magistrate, and Mr. Ameer Ali the Northern Division Magistrate of Calcutta and Coroner. He will also retain his Law Lecturership in the Presidency College. His aggregate pay will be a little more than Rs. 1700 per mensem. Mr. Eden will thus redeem his promise of giving one of the Calcutta Magistracies to a competent native gentleman.

IT IS stated that the Chamber of Commerce intends to protest against the License Bill. This reminds us of the old saying—shutting the stable after the horse is stolen.

THE FOLLOWING telegram has been received from Bombay:

Bombay, 19th February.—An immense enthusiatic public meeting of over 5,000 people including all the principal Merchants, Bankers and Tradesmen, European and Native, in Bombay was held this afternoon in Wilson's Circus to protest against the new famine taxation. A petition to Parliament was unanimously adopted praying that the new License-tax Bill may not be sanctioned until the invidious exemption of officials and professional men from payment of the tax is struck out, and also praying that the Indian Councils Act may be so amended as to give the great Indian Cities representatives in the Viceroy's Legislative Council. A resolution was also passed denouncing the conduct of the Government of Bombay in refusing the use of the Town Hall for a meeting and thus, trying to stifle public discussion on the new financial policy.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, 18th February—The political situation is considered to be less menacing, and it is expected that Germany will exercise a moderating influence on Russia.

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18th.—Lord Derby this evening replying to a question in the House of Lords, said that the Congress of Powers had made no progress. The Government, he said, had received no information that the Russian troops had entered Constantinople, but he had just received a despatch referring to a possible Russian advance on Gallipoli, which he had not yet had time to consider.

19th.—Lord Derby, in the House of Lords, replying to a question, said that the withdrawal of the British fleet to Mudania is solely because of the better anchorage to be found there. A despatch of Lord Salisbury approves of the Viceroy's Khelat policy, but desires the avoidance of measure which would imply the permanence of British troops at Quettah.

19th.—The British Iron-clad Squadron has gone from Mudania to Tenzla.

20th.—The negotiations are still proceeding between England and Russia respecting the proposed Russian occupation of Gallipoli. Government will make a statement on the subject to-morrow.

21st.—In the House of Commons to-night Sir Stafford Northcote, replying to a question respecting the proposed occupation of Gallipoli by the Russians, said that the result of the negotiations was that Russia had undertaken not to occupy Gallipoli, Bulair lines, or the Asiatic side of the Dardanelles, and England on her part undertakes not to land troops there. Sir Stafford said it was probable that additional navy estimates would not now be required. In the House of Lords, Lord Derby replying to a question, said that the obstacles which threatened the meeting of the European Conference at Baden-Baden had now been removed, and that it would assemble in about a fortnight. The House of Lords have passed the bill for a supplementary vote of six millions. Lord Beaconsfield said that the money was required, because all Europe was armed to the teeth.

21st.—The army estimates for 1877-78 amount to sixteen millions, being an increase of 490,000 pounds over those for 1876-77, the increase being chiefly devoted to war material for the army. Auxiliary forces are set down at 625,193 pounds.

22nd.—Several of the London papers assert that the Porte refuses to adhere to the peace conditions including the surrender of the Turkish fleet. The Russians have occupied Rustchuk. The Turks have evacuated Erzeroum.

Washington, 16th February.—The Senate has adopted a bill rendering silver dollars legal tender; the maximum coinage to be four millions monthly.

Constantinople, 17th February.—Two French iron-clads have arrived off the entrance to the Dardanelles.

18th.—The Russians have evacuated the Samidie redoubt, which they occupied on the 15th.

20th.—Server Pacha, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, has tendered his resignation, which the Sultan has accepted.

Athens, 17th February.—Greece is increasing her armaments.

Berlin, 19th February.—In to-day's sitting of the German Parliament, Prince Bismarck made a speech, during which he expressed his disbelief in the likelihood of a general European war arising from the Eastern Question. There was nothing, he said, in the peace conditions which had changed the attitude of Germany. Germany will not interfere, but is willing to mediate, and cannot favour an alliance of Germany, Austria, and England against Russia. The meeting of the European Congress is now certain.

Vienna, 19th February.—In the Austrian Chamber of Deputies to-day the President of the Austrian Council of Ministers declared that Austria would preserve the interests of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, and would object to any shifting of the balance of power in Europe.

Rome, 20th February.—Cardinal Pecci, an Italian, has been elected Pope by the conclave of Cardinals succeeding to Pius Ninth. The new Pope has assumed the title of Leo Thirteenth.

20th.—Cardinal Pecci was elected Pope by (acclamation?) adoration (*sic*). The views of the new Pope are moderate, and his election is popular.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Report on the Administration of Bengal for 1876-77. 2. Reports on the Forest Administration in the Scheduled Provinces under the Government of India for 1875-76. 3. Progress Report on Forest Administration in Mysore for 1876-77. 4. Ditto Ditto in Central Provinces for Ditto. 5. Ditto Ditto in Bengal for Ditto. 6. Ditto Ditto in Hyderabad Assigned Districts for Ditto. 7. Ditto Ditto in Assam for Ditto. 8. Ditto Ditto in Burma for Ditto. 9. Annual Statement of Trade and Navigation in British India with Foreign countries and of the coasting Trade of the several Presidencies and provinces in 1876-77. 10. Seventh Report of the St. Vincent's Home for 1877. 11. Report of the Bombay Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals for 1877. 12. Twelfth Report of the Charitable Society of St. Vincent de Paul for 1877. 13. Indian Famines—an enquiry into the causes, with suggestions By Major General C L. Showers. 14. Journal of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of India. Vol. V. Part III. 15. A Persian Drama—Fredun. 16. Anund Milan—an opera in Bengali. 17. Calcutta Magazine for February 1878. 18. Gupta Press Bengali Almanac for 1285 B. E. By Doorgachurn Gupta. 19. Sketch of the official career of the Hon'ble Ashley Eden, C. S. I. Published by Kallyprosunno Dey.

WE HAVE received a copy of a Bengali Almanac for the ensuing year by Babu Doorgachurn Gupta. It is a handy-book, and gives all necessary information within a short compass.

LADY LYTTON presided at the last annual exhibition of the Mission Zenana School of Nyehatty held at the house of Babu Bankim Chunder Chatterjea.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by the Very Rev. Father Lafont. J. S, on *Thursday* the *28th Inst.* next at 7 P. M.

Subject: Singing flames and Human ear.

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on *Saturday* the *2nd March*, at 3 P. M.

Subject: Induction and Distribution of Electricity, Power of Points, and the Electric Machine.

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MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D,
Honorary Secretary.

23rd February, 1878.

The Hindoo Patriot.

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THE DEBATE ON PUBLIC WORKS.

THERE was a good debate in the House of Commons on Public Works. Lord George Hamilton, alive to the cast of the time, forestalled the opponents of the Public Works policy of the Government of India by moving the appointment of a Select Committee on the subject. He said: "Of all the classes of expenditure which were in any way under the control of the Indian Government, there was none as to which a wider discrepancy of opinion prevailed than that relating to public works. The terrible famine in Madras had, he thought, given greater interest to the question as to the results to be obtained by a considerable annual expenditure on public works." His Lordship stated that "the Government has proposed a form of account to be sent out to India, by which the whole of the transactions connected with railways and irrigation works were brought under one head, and all the interest on the money expended on them, as well as the working expenses, were charged against the receipts, so that at a glance they could see what the actual result of the construction of those works annually was, and thus they would be able to check any statement made by the officials of the India Office and also to verify the statement which he himself had made—that although the area of irrigation and the mileage of the railways was yearly increasing in India, the actual cost to the State was yearly decreasing." Lord George Hamilton took a cursory review of expenditure on public works, and said that altogether, the works which the Government had constructed might be divided into three classes—those which paid well during ordinary years, those which did not pay but did something to avert famine, and those which did not pay and did not serve to avert famine. One of the main duties of the committee would be to ascertain the results obtained from the various public works, together with the causes of failure, and whether the principle on which receipts were estimated was sound or not. The comparative utility of railways and canals would also be matter for consideration. His Lordship gave some hard hits to Mr. Bright and Sir Arthur Cotton for their late Manchester agitation. With reference to Mr. Fawcett's amendment he said, "it would be impossible for any committee of that House to obtain sufficient local information to enable them to form a sound judgment as to every locality in India and it would consequently be dangerous to generalize upon their report. An inquiry had already been set on foot in India as to the question which the hon. member proposed to deal with, and it seemed to him far better that the present committee should inquire into and lay down the principles and conditions under which public works should be constructed in India, and at the same time so draw up their report as to afford the Home and Indian Governments the necessary latitude to modify their proposals according to the information which they might receive from the Commission." Regarding the Home Military Charges Lord George Hamilton said, "as to that subject he did not believe any good would result from the proposed inquiry, because sufficient evidence had already been accumulated to show that, although the charges might be high, we did not pay too much according to the principle which at present regulated them, and which had been stated by Lord Cardwell to be, that England was in partnership with India. So long as that principle was adhered to, we had necessarily to bear our share of the increase in the expenditure; but if the House or the hon. member for Hackney wished a larger sum to be paid by England and a proportionately less sum by India, he was sure the India Office would not object." We take leave to say that Lord George Hamilton here shirked the question of Home Military-charges. None knew better than His Lordship that the principle of joint-partnership on which the Home military charges of India were now regulated was opposed to law and equity. We hope this point will be made clear at the coming meeting at the Town Hall. Lord George Hamilton did not say any thing about reduction of expenditure, but Mr. Fawcett took up this point. The sightless champion of India said:

"If two millions were to be raised by additional taxation in India, no doubt the plan proposed by Sir John Strachey to the Indian Government was the best that could be adopted. It would, however, be necessary to inquire, in the first place, whether the amount required could not be obtained without additional taxation by means of greater economy, judicious retrenchment, and wiser administration. Admitting that those who proposed economy ought to point out how it could be effected, the hon. member proceeded to advert to the large and growing military expenditure in India. He did not think that the House was aware of the gravity of that expenditure. For many years India had enjoyed an almost profound peace, and yet the military expenditure of that country had increased, between 1863 and 1870, by 2½ millions, although in that time there had been a decrease in the number of European troops of 13,000 and of native troops of 4,000. Moreover, since the latter date, without any increase having been made in the numbers of the troops the military expenditure had further increased by two millions. While the net revenue of India was only 40 millions, her military expenditure was no less than 17 millions, or 45 per cent, of the entire imperial taxation of the country. Sir John Strachey had stated that this increase was owing to an increase in the Home charges, over which the Indian authorities had no control; that the gravity of this fact could not be exaggerated; and that there was no security that these charges might not be further increased in the future, and he expressed a hope that the financial relations between India and England would be placed on a basis more equitable towards the former country. It was on the strength of these weighty opinions that he ventured to appeal to the English Parliament to do justice to India. The House was bound in these circumstances not to lose a single moment in instituting an inquiry, not into the details, but into the principles of the Indian expenditure. If he were asked what would be the practical result of such an inquiry, he should point to the fact that the Army Retirement scheme which had been hurried through that House, and which largely affected the Indian expenditure had been introduced without even having been submitted to the Indian authorities. If he were asked what sort of evidence would be given before a committee of inquiry, he should say that if he were upon it the first person he should call would be a high Indian military authority, and he should put to him the question whether he had not devised a scheme for the reorganization of the army of Madras which would save that Presidency an expenditure of £400,000, and whether that scheme, although universally approved by the Indian authorities and by the Secretary of State, could not be adopted on account of some obstacle. It would be the duty of the committee to ascertain what that obstacle was, leaving it to Parliament to remove it. The English people were, he believed, anxious to do justice to India, and only desired to know how justice should be rendered; and it was a pertinent and practical part of the inquiry which he suggested to find out how the English people could be, he would not say more generous, but more just to India. (Hear, hear".)

Mr. Bright followed and gave Lord George Hamilton well about out-door agitation. He said: "Now, the noble lord has made some—I won't say attack on me—remarks which I have no doubt he thought himself quite justified in making. He has not had so much to do with out-door agitation as I have, and I can tell him that in my experience nothing is more common in the last 40 years than to hear denunciations of out-door agitations from the Ministerial bench. (Hear, hear.) There has scarcely been any question carried by Parliament that has not been carried mainly in consequence of political agitation outside." Mr. Bright then urged that the proposed enquiry into public works should be made with special reference to Famine. Accordingly Lord George Hamilton's Resolution was thus worded: "That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the expediency of constructing public works in India with money raised on loan both as regards financial results and the prevention of famines." The resolution of the House of Commons has taken a practical shape, and we hope it will bear good fruit. Finance Minister after Finance Minister has protested against the tyranny of the Public Works Department, and it is time that some check should be put upon it.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF CALCUTTA.

III.

In our last we dwelt on the alleged talkativeness of the Municipal Commissioners. In this

article we propose to examine the work they have done since their creation. The Municipal administration report of Calcutta for 1876 states: "Nominally for the first six months of the year, but practically for four months later, the Municipal affairs of the town continued in the hands of the Justices of the Peace. It was not till the month of October that the Commissioners elected, or appointed, under the new constitution, actually relieved the Justices of their Municipal duties." The new Commissioners were thus not responsible for the work of 1876. Coming at the end of the year, the most difficult task, however, devolved upon the Commissioners. It was customary to pass the Budget for the ensuing year at that time. The Commissioners were in a difficult situation. The Chairman was new to his office, and therefore not acquainted with the traditions of the department, the requirements of the town, or the practical working of the machinery. The majority of the Commissioners were in the same plight. But both girdled up their loins and went to the work manfully. Both were lost in the wilderness of Municipal accounts and strove their best to get out of it, and did come out successfully with the aid of the few old Justices, who were members of the new corporation. At the outset both the European and Native members took an active part in their work. The Finance Committee sat week after week to deliberate upon the Budget, and did not pass a single item or figure without careful scrutiny. They based their estimates of receipts and charges on the experience of past years, and after providing fully for the requirements of the year reduced the house-rate from 7½ to 7 per cent. This was the first act of the new Commissioners, which gave universal satisfaction. The Commissioners did not unreasonably cut down expenditure or starve improvements, but were able to secure an equilibrium between income and expenditure with a seven per cent house-rate. This was the lowest house-rate ever fixed by the Municipality of Calcutta since 1856. The new Commissioners also introduced a healthy reform in the interest account. This account was the gulf which swallowed up the surpluses of the Municipal fund. There was no certainty in the interest account. After providing for the dues of each year the Justices were ever and anon frightened with arrears of interest. These arrears varied with every manipulation of the hand. If the charges for works increased, the allotment for interest was drawn upon, to meet deficiency without the knowledge or sanction of the Justices. The Commissioners were determined to put a stop to this uncertainty and irregularity, and they accordingly passed a resolution carrying the interest assignment to a separate account, which should not be touched for any other purpose. Then the Commissioners resolved to see that all works should be executed within the sanctioned estimates, and that an excess expenditure should not be incurred without previous sanction. They strongly objected to excess expenditure on account of the census without sanction, and although they ultimately passed it, they did not do so without protest. The next subject, to which they directed their attention, was municipal stores. They caused stock to be taken, and passed a resolution that stores should not be purchased without inviting tenders and that the tenders should be disposed of by the Finance Committee. In this way the old scandals about purchase of stores it was hoped would be prevented.

The year 1877 properly speaking was the first working year of the new Corporation. Five important subjects engaged the attention of the Commissioners, *viz.*, 1. completion of the drainage works, 2. doubling of water supply, 3. general illumination of the town with gas, 4. introduction of a night-soil service, 5. bustee improvement. The Commissioners have made ample provision for the completion of drainage. Although the law did not require them to devote more than a lakh and a half to the extension of drainage works per annum, the Commissioners voted three lacs and a half for 1877, and four lacs of rupees for 1878. With regard to water supply the Commissioners have resolved to double it and to extend it throughout the town. The cost is estimated at about 20 lacs of rupees, and they have made the necessary provision for money. If the scheme has not yet been passed, it is because the executive have not yet been able to mature the details. There are now 14 miles of bye-lanes unpiped, but where the scheme for doubling the supply is carried out, it is hoped that there will be no part of the town without a supply. It will also enable the proprietors of bustees to provide water to their tenants. At present water cannot be supplied to the bustees for want of adequate supply. Then the Commissioners have resolved to illuminate the whole town with gas without increase to the lighting rate. They have made arrangements with the Oriental Gas Company for the general illumination of the Town on reduced terms so as to bring the charge within the income of the lighting rate. The number of lamps will be nearly doubled. Not only important thoroughfares but bye-lanes and newly constructed roads over sewered ditches will be lighted with gas. The introduction of a night-soil service was the next great work done by the Commissioners during the past year. Although there was much angry discussion about the way this reform was started by the executive, the Commissioners admitted its necessity and supported the principle of the measure. We are convinced that there was much waste of money in organizing the service, and although the Commissioners did not like to interfere with the executive at the first start of the measure, lest they be charged with obstructiveness, they have subsequently taken steps to check extravagance. The Commissioners, though censuring the executive for incurring such extravagant expenditure without consulting them or obtaining their sanction, have passed the amount expended. The question of bustee improvement engaged the attention of the Commissioners often during the last year. This question has various bearings. In the first place much has to be done by the Municipality for the improvement of bustees. The open ditches running along and through the bustees were receptacles of filth, and no substantial improvement could be effected unless they were filled up. This measure the Commissioners have resolved to carry out in right earnest. The filling up of these ditches forms a part of the drainage scheme, and by pushing it on the Commissioners have been battling successfully with one great source of Bustee nuisance. Many old ditches have been filled up and the bustees have been connected with the sewers. Then roads have been constructed over these filled-up ditches, and where necessary the Commissioners have sanctioned extra expenditure for land to widen roads. In this way the Commissioners have fulfilled three important objects, that is to say, they have provided means for the effective drainage of bustees, removed a perpetual cause of unhealthiness, and opened new means of intercommunication. Then foul tanks are a cause of nuisance in bustees. The Commissioners are opposed to indiscriminate tank-filling or dewatering of tanks, and have loudly denounced reckless measures in this respect, but wherever they have seen the necessity, they have sanctioned the de-watering or filling-up of tanks. In this way 8 tanks were filled up during 1876,21 filled up and 80 tanks dewatered in 1877, and about 50 tanks are now in hand. These figures shew whether the Commissioners have been negligent as alleged in this branch of their work. What they object to and will not tolerate is the indiscriminate filling up of tanks, particularly as there are not materials to fill up the tanks all at once. The Engineer himself says that it will take 42 years to fill up the tanks within the town, and when such is the case the Commissioners do not see the propriety of serving penal notices indiscriminately. This is the root of the difference of opinion between the Commissioners and the Health-Officer. The measures taken to fill up and dewater the worst tanks in the town have greatly contributed to the sanitation of the bustees. Then the Commissioners have taken measures to require the proprietors of several bustees to open out roads for conservancy carts and also to erect huts on proper lines. These measures will secure proper conservancy and ventilation in the bustees. Further, the latrines in the bustees have been either connected with the sewers or brought under the new night-soil regulations. The Commissioners have also been in contemplation the purchase of two most crowded bustees, and negociations are in progress. These are the principal works done by the Commissioners during the first year of their existence. They have, besides, done hard and continuous work in supervising executive details. They have put the Entally work-shops on a proper footing and passed the bye-laws and pension rules. The Commissioners are divided into some fourteen Special Committees, the total number of whose sittings was 104 during 1877, far larger than the number of similar meetings under the late Justices. The year 1876 was a period of transition, but in 1875 the Committees of Justices had 57 meetings. Some of the Committees referred to above had also out-door work such as the inspection of tanks, bustees, and jute screws and warehouses. Then the Ward Commissioners serve as referees in matters connected with their respective wards, and they devote considerable time to that work. The reader may form some idea of the work done by the Commissioners when we mention that the most active among them devote on an average about two hours of their time daily to municipal matters. The mere reading of municipal papers takes up no small share of their time. But they do not grudge to give their time; they receive no pay or remuneration, and yet they work as hard as the best paid municipal officers, while the members of other public corporations in India are paid, to wit the Directors of the Banks and similar institutions, the members of the Port Commission, the members of the Town Council of Bombay, and the like. But we do not mention these facts to claim for the Commissioners remuneration for the services rendered by them. So far as the Native Commissioners are concerned, we do not hesitate to say that there is not one among them, who covets remuneration for services rendered. It is for the reader to consider whether the men, who thus give their talents and time to the management of public affairs, do not deserve generous cosideration at the hands o the Government and the public. Is constant vituperation of them without reason or rhyme a fitting reward of their devoted and unremitting labours? They are charged with talkativeness, but does the above catalogue of works done by them, necessarily brief as it is, show that they only talk and do no work? We challenge the critics of the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta to point out a single year in the history of the Municipality in which so much hard and important work has been done. Strictly speaking there has been less talk than heretofore. Is not therefore the present agitation against the Municipal Commissioners to knock them on the head premature? What could be a greater proof of the efficiency of the present corporation than that they have provided in a single year for the completion of the drainage works, for the doubling of water supply, and for the general illumination of the Town with gas? A single work of this description is enough to establish the good reputation of a public corporation. But unfortunately the majority of the Municipal Commissioners are natives, and therefore there can be no good in them.

THE PROBLEM OF LIFE IN BENGAL.

THE problem of life in Bengal is gradually becoming more and more complicated, and is also attracting the attention of our rulers. It must be met boldly in the face. The habits of life of the people of this country are simple; their wants are few; their ways are thrifty, and they are easily contented. But the law of progress, which Western civilization has introduced into this country, has greatly changed the economic and social condition of the people. In the first place, the security to life and property which the English Government affords, and the profound peace which it maintains has greatly tended to increase the population of the country. In the second place the introduction of new staples has

trenched upon the breadth of food-crops grown. In the third place English education has revolutionized the old social frame-work, and disturbed the ancient classification of occupations according to caste. In the fourth place the rise in the value of agricultural produce has immensely increased the cost of food, and necessarily curtailed the resources of a single bread-winner of a family for the support of numerous hangers-on, who have been consequently thrown adrift. In the fifth place English education and contact with Englishmen have created certain artificial wants, which those, who have imbibed English notions and feelings, have not the means to meet. In the sixth place the desire to keep pace with the new law of progress has greatly enhanced the cost of living. Education, medication, and social intercourse have become far more expensive than before. All these causes have made the problem of life serious, and all thoughtful and observant men are anxious to know how it can be solved. The future we must confess is gloomy. The number of educated men is annually increasing by thousands, and how are they to live? The sort of education given to them chiefly qualifies them for Government employ or employment analogous to it, and that field is already over-crowded. Agriculture and trade are the only hope of the people, but unfortunately the men, who come out of the schools and colleges, have no experience in agriculture, while they have not the necessary capital for trade. What are they to do is the question of the hour. Of course we must trust in Providence. He, Who has begat them, will keep them alive. But God helps them, who help themselves. It will not do to sit idly or to lie down in the hope that the food will drop into one's mouth. He must work, exert, labor, in order to get the food he wants. But the Indian does not shirk work or labor; he pines away because he does not find a fitting field for labor.

This subject formed the theme of Mr. Eden's address at the last annual exhibition of the Oriental Seminary. We have read it with pleasure, because whatever he says, he says frankly and unreservedly. We can believe that his candour is not always liked, for no one likes to have his own faults to be exposed. A blind man does not like to be called blind. This is human nature. Nevertheless truth is truth, and the man, who tells the truth, regardless of consequences, is after all our best friend. It cannot be denied that Mr. Eden told many hard and wholesome truths in his address at the Oriental Seminary. He pointed out that the free admission of natives into the Civil Service will not solve the problem of life in Bengal. He said :

"The entire number of Civil Servants at the close of the last year in Lower Bengal was 262, and the end of these entered the service 45 years ago. Now, how many of the educated young men of the country would this service provide for? Why at the very most 10 a year, and yet the number of youngmen who enter the University or qualify for entry, is 800 or 900 every year. The number of covenanted Civil Servants in all branches of the administration is really very considerably less than the number of native magistrates now employed in Bengal, and the number of native magistrates and native judges is much more than double the number of English magistrates and English judges; and yet what a very small proportion of the educated young men of the country can find employment in these branches of the service! The same may be said of the Medical Service. The number of European officers is very small when compared with the number of native medical officers now employed-infinitesimally small when compared with the number of young men who are studying Medicine. Therefore, though I hope and believe that Government will do all it can to increase the number of its native officials, it is quite certain that it is not in this direction that we can look for a solution of the question of a career for educated young men."

Again with reference to trades and professions he remarked :

"Setting aside the bar and the medical professions, I admit that other branches of business are not adopted to any great extent by educated native gentlemen. But why is this? After all, the trades and callings in India are actually carried on by natives, and all the artisans and mechanics in the country almost are natives, all bricklayers are natives, all the actual manufacturers are natives. Then why is it that natives have not the whole of the profit of these forms of business in their own hands? Why are not all the great trades and factories managed by them? Why, when a native gentleman wishes to build himself a fine house, does he send for a European contractor instead for one of his own countrymen? Why, when he wishes to furnish that house, does he insist upon buying his furniture from a European firm? The work is all actually the work of natives of the country. I am afraid the answer to this is that there is an admitted want of thoroughness in native work. There is a feeling that to ensure good work the guarantee of European supervision is necessary, and that natives of the country have not yet learned to give the complete confidence to their fellow countrymen because they recognise this absence of thoroughness. The question is how is this to be acquired? I do not think that actual school education can give it. It is I hope growing year by year, but nothing will really produce it except that which has produced it in other countries.—necessity arising from competition, and struggle for life. When men are really pressed for the means of subsistence they will realise that the public will always get what they want in the cheapest and best market, and that if they can get native work and native manufactures cheaper and at the same time as good as work performed under European supervision and guaranteed by European firms, there is no reason why every branch of business in the country should not pass into native hands."

This is one side of the shield, and Mr. Eden was quite right so far as he directed his view. Let us look to the other side of the shield, and here we hope Mr. Eden will pardon us if we follow his example and be candid too.

In referring to the question of the admission of natives into the Civil Service Mr. Eden we cannot help saying confounded the intellectual and political aspirations of the educated classes with the problem of getting on in life. No one we believe ever dreams that the admission of a few natives into the Civil Service will solve the problem of life. It is a political right, which the educated classes justly assert, and which the Government, while acknowledging its reasonableness in the abstract, has not fairly recognized it in practice. The question has been discussed thread-bare and we will not therefore repeat the old arguments. What we wish to point out is simply this—that Mr. Eden did not do justice to the intellectual and political aspirations of the educated classes by representing that the agitation of the subject implies a desire to press upon the Government its obligation "to provide appointments for all young men, who have obtained a certain standard of education." This is not the question at issue. As for filling the medical service and the uncovenanted service, the reason of the discontent among the educated natives is not that the Government does not provide appointment for them all but that the Government is not true to itself. Over and over has Her Majesty's Government recognized the "inherent right" of the natives to the unconvenanted service, for which they are qualified, but how often have their claims been overlooked? Mr. Eden has begun to recognize these claims, but even he does not dare do full justice. He cannot himself induce his brother officials to look into the matter in the light he does. So much for the hankering for Government employ. Then as to trades and professions. The Government has large patronage in its hands, and Government officers, Mr. Eden cannot be unaware, generally like to patronize their countrymen. It is not quite correct to say that the Natives do not do their work with thoroughness. There are numerous native contractors in the P. W. D. who do their work well, faithfully, conscientiously and thoroughly. But as a rule the European contractors get the loaves and fishes—the native contractors only the crumbs. The same remarks apply to the supply of stores. The Europeans import in the same manner as the natives do—the articles come from the same source, but the Europeans get the preference. Take even the professional appointments outside the Government service. The Road Cess appointments the Lieutenant Governor has ruled should be given to Native engineers, but what is the practical result? Europeans are almost invariably preferred to natives. As for natives patronizing Europeans, in many cases they are helpless. They find that European managers of estates by virtue of their color and creed command greater influence with the officials than natives. With regard to trades natives do receive patronage from their countrymen, but if native workmen do not give the full finish and thoroughness, it is because our countrymen do not pay natives so well as they do Europeans. Cheap and nasty are synonymous terms, and this is one reason why natives cannot execute work with thoroughness. Then even as regards native patronage it cannot be denied that with a certain class of our countrymen the European carries a prestige, which the native lacks. As for technical education we are glad that the Government has at last taken a step in that direction, and that native gentlemen have come forward to support it. But there should be a combination of agricultural with manufacturing industry, and our countrymen should follow as far as practicable the co-operative principle. Otherwise the outlook of the future cannot be improved.

THE LOKENATHPORE CASE.

THE Lokenathpore case bids fair to become a *causus celebre*. As the case is pending appeal, we will not comment on its merits. In the meantime we are glad to learn that Mr. Monomohun Ghose, who has taken up the case as an *amicus curæ*, has succeeded in getting the two defendants released on bail. The appeal will be heard by the Sessions Judge on the 2nd proximo. There are certain features in the case, which without prejudice to its merits are we think fair subjects of public comment. These features are developed in Mr. Skrine's evidence. Mr. Skrine was the Joint Magistrate, who conducted the enquiry, and on whose report the two men are now under trial on a charge of perjury. Mr. Skrine is on duty in Madras and was therefore examined by commission. A string of questions was submitted by the pleader for the defence, but many of them were disallowed by the trying Magistrate. We give some of them below so that the reader may judge what sort of questions they were, and how far the Magistrate was justified in disallowing them :

Q.—Have you any objection that your letters to Mr. Glascott on the subject should be produced?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Do you remember having sent a telegram to Johori Babu (Inspector of Police) after you heard Ramgati's death?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Why did you think it necessary to hold a local investigation in person?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Can you say (looking into the investigation papers, if necessary) how many persons were examined on the first day of your enquiry?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Can you give any reason, if you say no?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Did you put to writing if any such examination was made?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Did you see Mr. Glascott that day?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Had you any conversation with him touching the murder or supposed murder of Ramgati?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Did you make any enquiry as to who had given him the information that Ramgati was missing?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Were any of the factory amlahs present when you held the local investigation?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Did you call any if you say they were not?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Can you give any reason why you did not call any?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Had you any particular reason for taking the investigation in your own hands?
A.—Disallowed,
Q.—Did you give any injunction that the Police should not examine Mr. Glascott?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Was Mr. Glascott at all examined, either as an accused or as a witness, during the whole course of this investigation?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Why did you think it necessary to be present in person at the time of arrest?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Did you expect any opposition from the side of Mr. Glascott?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Do you know why was Herambo Chuckerbutty, Sub-Inspector, who first undertook the investigation of this case removed from the spot?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Will you swear that you exercised no threats in making them retract their former statements?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—When did it first occur to you that the statements of the accused were false?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—What were your grounds for coming to this conclusion?
Disallowed.
Q.—When did you first instruct the Police to investigate that the deceased was involved in debt?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Did you make any enquiry as to the amount of property which the deceased has left?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Have you formed any opinion on the subject?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—If so, what?
A.—Disallowed.
Q.—Did you not threaten some persons whose statements you thought proper to take down with drawn knife and with pistols pointed?
A.—Disallowed,
Q.—When did you inform Mr. Glascott what the accused had stated before you?
A.—Disallowed.

We think it is enough to draw attention to the questions disallowed. The Magistrate might have had good reasons for disallowing these questions, but they are not obvious to us. After

the trial is over we hope the High Court may think fit to call upon the Magistrate to explain why these questions were disallowed. Who knows but that the answers might have thrown considerable light upon the real facts of the case.

We will now draw the attention of the reader to some of the answers of Mr. Skrine:

Q.—From whom did you get the first information concerning Ramgati's death—was it not Mr. Glascott?

A.—Two letters from Mr. Glascott conveyed to me the first information which I received regarding Ramgati Biswas's movements on the day prior to the discovery of his body.

Q.—Did you not think it rather suspicious that he should have written to you on the subject?

A.—With the modifications above stated, I did not at first think it at all suspicious.

So according to Mr. Skrine's own statement he "considered the fact of Mr. Glascott's having thus addressed him as suspicious," and yet he commissioned him (Mr. Glascott) "to inform him promptly of every thing that should come to his (Mr. Glascott's) knowledge!"

Q.—What was the relation between yourself and the Police touching this enquiry; that is, whether the Police had any independent charge, or they were simply to follow your orders?

A.—During the earlier stages of the enquiry, the Officiating District Superintendent exercised a sort of joint control with myself over the course of the enquiry. Afterwards I assumed sole charge, and the Police acted entirely under my orders.

So the whole enquiry was practically in Mr. Skrine's hands.

Q.—Will you swear that you had no other ground for arresting the factory servants than the statements of the defendants, Troylukho Nath and Ramgati Kahar?

A.—I will not swear that I had no other ground than the statements of these persons for acting as I did. I was mainly influenced by their statements, but there was a large mass of apparently corroborative testimony.

Q.—How many days after you took down the statements of the accused was it that you caused those men to be arrested?

A.—I have no memorandum with me, but think three days elapsed between my recording the statements of the accused and my arresting the factory servants.

Q.—In the meantime, did you get any other evidence in support of their statements?

A.—The interval was devoted to recording apparently corroborative evidence.

Q.—If there is no other evidence, will you explain the cause of this delay?

A.—*Vide* reply to the above question.

How lucid! But Mr. Skrine said just now that he received information from Mr. Glascott on the day prior to the finding of the corpse:

Q.—When did you first come to know that the deceased Ramagati Bi was did not come to the factory by the Chandpore road?

A.—I cannot answer this question after such a lapse of time.

Q.—Who gave you the information?

A.—I cannot remember the names of my informants. Their statements will be found in my report.

Q.—Do you remember having received any such information from Mr. Glascott?

A.—In one of Mr. Glascott's letters he made such an allegation received on the day prior to finding the corpse, but for a long time I considered him to have been misinformed on the point.

Q.—If so, when?

A.—*Vide* reply to question 50.

Q.—Whether it was before or after the arrest that you got the information?

A.—The information on which I acted was obtained after the arrest.

Q.—Did you examine the accused and other people in your own dwelling-house when the night was far advanced?

A.—I examined them first in public in the factory premises, and afterwards in my own house. I cannot recollect the hour of the last examination, but to the best of my belief it was in the day time.

Q.—Did you examine anybody in open Court?

A.—Certainly not, the enquiry not being judicial.

And yet the men have been committed for perjury, which means false statement before a judicial tribunal. The following answers are by far the most edifying:

Q.—Can you give any reason why, when you arrested the factory servants, you did not arrest Mr. Glascott himself?

A.—I can give the following reasons—

(a.) Mrs. Glascott was confined on the night of the alleged murder, and I was fearful of the worst consequences in her weak state of health, if I arrested her husband at an early date after her confinement.

(b.) Mr. Glascott engaged he would not leave the factory precincts without my knowledge, and I have never had reason to doubt his veracity when solemnly pledged.

(c.) His servants having been arrested, Mr. Glascott was powerless to interfere with my enquiry.

(d.) It was in the last degree improbable that a man of his appearance would attempt to escape without speedy recognition and recapture.

Q.—Is it your opinion that Mr. Glascott was incapable of acting in the way, as it is alleged he did?

A.—Disallowed.

We hope we are reading a solemn judicial record and not a page of romance.

But this is not all. The following letters are also highly edifying:

MY DEAR SKRINE,—Ramgoti Biswas, the Tehsildar of Kooltollah has been found over Rs. 400 short of his collections, and I have a case ready to bring against him in your court to-morrow. This morning at daylight, his horse was found near the Boonapara line and a saddle, a bridle, and some clothes, I suppose belonging to him, under a tree, near the place; so something is up. I have given information to the police at Dawoorbuddah,

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) G. A. GLASCOTT.

A little later on the same day, Mr. Glascott wrote again:

MY DEAR SKRINE,—The police have been here, and at 3 P. M. to-day they found the body of Ramgoti Biswas in the water near the Boonapara. I have told them to make any investigation in the matter that they could. I wrote to his brother, Ram Churn Biswas of Srikole, who was his security, the day before yesterday, telling him the amount his brother was a defaulter for, and it seems that he left Srikole yesterday afternoon, saying he was going to Loknathpore. But he did not appear here to my knowledge. I have received a summons to appear in Jessore Court, and must go to Khalishpore to-morrow (Monday), but I am going to try to get off going to Jessore, in which case I will be back here on Wednesday morning. They are going to take the body to Chooadangah to the doctor to-day. There is no use in my bringing the case I spoke of now, but the defalcation amounts to a large sum, about Rs. 435.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) GEO A. GLASCOTT

The above letters remind us of the days of "My dear Tweedie," which are doubtless in the recollection of many of our readers. This sort of "My dearing" the Magistrate in matters demanding judicial investigation are of course calculated to inspire the people with the highest confidence in the administration of justice in the Moffussil. Fancy what would have been the feeling of the Chief Justice if he had been "my deared" in this way by a person—saying "My dear Garth I have a case ready to bring in your court to-morrow!"

It is also remarkable that the report made by Mr. Skrine was not produced before the Court below. Mr. Stevens, the District Magistrate, was questioned upon this point and deposed as follows:

"C. C. Stevens, Esq., Magistrate of Nuddea, appearing in answer to a letter calling upon him to produce the report of Mr. Skrine, late Joint Magistrate of Chooadanga, in his enquiry into the cause of the death of Ramgati BisWas, declines to produce the report under Section 124 of the Evidence Act but has no objection to copies of Mr. Glascott's letters being given.

This is the section referred to by Mr. Stevens:

Sec. 124.—No public officer shall be compelled to disclose communications made to him in official confidence, when he considers that the public interests would suffer by the disclosure.

May we ask what "public interests would suffer by the disclosure" of the report? Imagine such a report upon a supposed murder case had been withheld in England. Would not a howl of indignation have been raised throughout the United Kingdom? But in India the grossest arbitrariness passes unchallenged. Will the Government vouchsafe the report to the public? If it does, we hope it will give the original report by Mr. Skrine and not an abstract of it by Mr. Stevens.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE ON EDUCATION.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE made a remarkable oration at the last convocation of the Bombay University. It was at once a review of the educational Policy of Government, of the intellectual aspirations of the people, of the science of education, and of the comparative claims of the "humanistic" and "realistic" branches of knowledge. It teems with evidences of the versatile mind of the speaker. Sir Richard said at the outset, "we desire to foster all kinds of education alike, whether high, or elementary, or intermediate—encouraging each kind according to its needs." As he went on he unfolded in a happy style the progress of the different classes of public schools in the Western Presidency. He laid due stress upon the improvement of vernacular literature. He remarked "that already a good beginning has been made by several highly qualified Native gentlemen. On various branches of useful knowledge, books will be written in the vernacular languages of this Presidency, and in a plain, practical style, some of which will be abstracts, others translations, *in extenso*, of English works. Some of these books, too, will be original works by Native authors who having, mastered for themselves the subject in hand will expound it in their own Oriental mode of thought and expression for the benefit of their countrymen. We should afford the utmost incitement to Natives to attempt this original composition, as affording the best scope for that sort of independent self-sufficing ability which we most desire to evoke among them. Such labours do as much good to the writers as to those for whose instruction the books are written, and will raise up a class of Native thinkers whose mental achievements will be among the most substantial results of our educational system." He deplored in fitting language the absence of the higher classes from the higher schools and colleges. He said, "you know, gentlemen, that the upper ranks of Native society are as yet but little represented in the rolls of our University calendars; that although the rich men of Bombay do often present their sons for our University examinations, yet such is not the general practice (as it ought to be with the Native nobility and gentlemen of Western India; that for those who matriculate in this University the share borne by the State in the cost of their education is great, and that for those who take degrees this share of the State is greater still." This is more or less true for every part of India, and the backwardness of the higher classes to receive higher education is not a little owing to want of a dignified career, for which the Government is chiefly responsible. Sir Richard thus acknowledged the obligation of the State to promote liberal education: "To institute public education without providing for superior instruction," said he, "would be to make a spear without a spear-head, or a sword without a sharp edge. Without superior instruction we could not diffuse those thoughts, ideas, and aspirations, the diffusion of which forms the noblest part of the mission of England in the East. Without it, also, we could not find the agency for competently affording secondary instruction, or even primary instruction." What Sir Richard Temple thus eloquently expounded applies to all India. He frankly acknowledged how little has been done in the way of fostering liberal education in India. Speaking of Bombay he said, there are not more than 800 students in the Government colleges in the Bombay Presidency and not more than 100 in the private colleges; or 900 in all. From among the students at the high schools about 1,200 present themselves yearly for the University entrance examination, of whom about 300 pass on the average. But of those who thus enter the University only a few study for degrees. Now, I must remind you that this circumstance is opposed to the principle of those European Universities on the model of which this University has been established. In Europe, young men enter Universities, not merely for the sake of entering, but for the purpose of taking degrees. In this Presidency, as elsewhere in India, young, Natives generally enter the University for the sake of entering merely, and without any thought of taking degrees." And this is the case because the Government in the dispensation of its patronage does not sufficiently recognize the claims of University graduates. With regard to the subject-matter of education Sir Richard Temple, while attaching due importance to "humanistic" knowledge, urged the necessity of realistic knowledge. He did not deprecate the "loftiest conceptions of philosophical thought." On the contrary he reminded his audience that "those sacred lamps of faith, virtue, morality, and philosophy, preserved to us by the best traditions of the world—those holy fires unextinguished through so many ages, and as we believe inextinguishable—have been reverently and faithfully handed down to you by this University. Whatever changes may be gradually introduced into other parts of our teaching, this part will we trust, remain unchanged and unchangeable." He admitted that the ethical and philosophical teaching has been attended with the best moral results. He said that "there is a greatly improved standard of conduct, a higher ideal of rectitude, among those Natives who have received our ethical instruction, and have been in daily contact with the European professors. In the higher branches of the public service, both executive and judicial more especially in the judicial—the Natives evince an integrity and a trustworthiness for which we are heartily thankful." At the same

time he exhorted the students to pursue "realistic" studies. He said, "I beg you to read the general evidence given in 1862 before the Royal Commission on the Public Schools in England, by such witnesses as Hooker, Faraday, Owen, Lyell, Acland, Carpenter. They declared that scientific pursuits by themselves afford an excellent general education, as training the mind to habits of method, order, observation, and classification, and that in the words of Faraday himself "the study of natural science is a glorious school for the mind." And we are glad to say that there is now a general desire among Indian youths not only for scientific but also for practical studies. Unfortunately the means for such studies are not adequate.

GENERAL SHOWERS ON INDIAN FAMINES.

IT may startle the reader to see a military man, who deals with shot and shell, descant upon the problem of the famine. But Major-General Showers is a practical agriculturist of great experience, and has made valuable contributions to the literature of cotton cultivation. With his experience thus gathered he has offered some valuable suggestions for the prevention of famine. He justly considers the famine an agricultural problem and has discussed the subject with great knowledge and ability. He thus formulates his ideas:

1*st* Throw the village lands into large fields by levelling down and plouging up the intervening ridges (*dhols*), through which under the present system each individual proprietor's (*putteedar's*) portion of the village land is permanently divided off into minute patches, stereotyping sterility. This measure alone would serve to bring a large area in the aggregate of strong land under cultivation which, not broken up for ages, would represent, in comparison with the exhausted surface of the mid-lying fieldlets, virgin soil.

2*nd*. Arrange for a rotation of crops and systematic manuring as follows:—Divide the ploughed land into three parts or tracts, not by fences, but on some plan generally recognized by the village community. Then proceed with a systematic course of rotation with the crops found suitable to climate and soil of different localities respectively, but with this invariable provision in every case—that on the fourth year one of the parts shall be left fallow in succession, after being heavily manured by a green crop grown upon it in the preceding season, cut and ploughed in. This method of manuring, it has been demonstrated in the preceding pages, in correction of the popular notion and corroborated by high authority, is far more effective that the same substance passed through cattle and applied to the soil as dung; and its adoption will meet the objections of those who despair of Indian agriculture because the chief natural manure of the country, the dung of cattle, is diverted by the necessities of the peasantry from its natural purpose to domestic uses as fuel, and they are too poor on the other hand to supply its place with imported artificial manures.

Before passing on from the subject of manuring, while advocating the application of green crops on the method above sketched, I would not lose sight of the importance of having a dung-pit constructed in every village on the scientific plan of retaining all the liquid element which contains, in its nitrogen and alkalies, the chief fertilising principles of manure. Thus the pit, while being covered in above, to be protected from the washing in of the rain, should be equally water-tight below. Then a valuable compost might be formed by throwing in all the weeds and refuse vegetable matter of the fields and of the cattle yard, with as much dung as may be scraped up after the cow-dung fuel (*opla*) is made. Add ashes of all sorts; muck or peat, which is decayed vegetable matter in mass, and abounds in phosphates and alkalies; lime where procurable; and above all bones, yielding the phosphate and carbonate of lime.

3*rd*. Sub soil drainage, on the principles enunciated and illustrated in a preceding place. On land under canal irrigation, it has been demonstrated to be absolutely indispensable, both in regard to cultivation and sanitation. Irrigation, unaccompanied by subsoiling, makes the land, as Mr. Meebi well puts it, "like the bottom of a pond and ruins the crop." On the other hand, the necessity for the two operations going hand in hand, on sanitary grounds, has been amply illustrated by the example of Kurnal and other parts of the country, once healthy, rendered deadly by canal irrigation without drainage.

4*th*. Reservoirs for the storage of rainfall, on the plan of construction of those found at the present day in the territories of the Native States—noble monuments at once of the beneficence and munificence of the former rulers of the land. The reservoirs and tanks, on a smaller scale, constructed by my lamented friend, the late Col Charles Dixon, in the Mairwarra tract, are much on the same plan.

5*th*. Extension of the Indian Railway system, through supplementary feeder lines, to open up remote districts.

The suggestions of General Showers are practical, but we fear they cannot be applied to all parts of the country equally nor at once. His experience, we believe, has been chiefly obtained from Northern India, the soil of which differs in quality from that of Lower Bengal. Experiments may, however, be made in different parts of the country, and the Agricultural Society to which the paper has been addressed ought to take the lead in this matter. General Showers deprecates "swamp cultivation," but Lower Bengal is a vast swamp, and thorough sub-soil drainage here is out of the question. We, however, agree with him that the soil is becoming exhausted, and steps ought to be taken to renovate it.

IS DISCUSSION SEDITION?

WE HAVE been tempted to ask this question on perusing the correspondence which has lately passed between the Punjab Government and the local Anjuman. The Anjuman proposed to hold an Educational Congress, to which it invited educational officers, and solicited the Government to permit them to attend it. The Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab has thought fit to snub this movement altogether. His Honor says, "in the first place it may well be doubted whether a general Congress, on the subject of Education can be of any benefit in India. Associations for the promotion of Social Science, or special branches of Science, have, even in England, been found of little practical advantage, although their justification there is found in the pleasure with which the intellectual and cultivated portion of the community, which in England is considerable, attend discussions on questions of even theoretical interest. But in India, the class, among the native population, which can regard the Educational policy of the Government with any intelligent interest or sympathy is exceedingly small, and there remain only English officials, whose cultivation and intelligence are undoubted, but whose criticisms upon the manner in which the work of a Government Department is conducted are neither desired nor will be accepted by the Government, when issuing from a Congress whose avowed aim is to criticise the organization and work of the Educational Department." So the cat is out of the bag. The Government objects to the Congress and to officials attending it, because it will lead to criticisms on "the organization and work of the educational department." In other words it does not want light. Why it deprecates light it passes our understanding to comprehend. The objects of the Anjuman are set forth in the following rules:

"1. The revival of Ancient Oriental learning.

"2. General Literary and Scientific advancement through the medium of the vernacular.

"3. The discussion of Social and Political questions of interest, with a view of the representation of public opinion to Government."

The proposed Congress thus falls quite within the scope of the Anjuman. The Society in reply to Government points out that in the prosecution of their objects European and native officials and others, as well as the native gentry generally, have hitherto co-operated, and this action has not been deemed to be objectionable and unconstitutional or barren of good results in the past. The Anjuman has made no change in the policy which it has hitherto pursued, and it sincerely trusts that there will equally be no change of policy towards it by the Government. The latter is a vain hope. We see in the letter of the Government under notice that there has not been a change in its feeling. We extract the following from the reply of the Anjuman to the Government letter:

In the first place, the Anjuman, whilst fully recognizing the services of its Founder and President, cannot accept the position, apparently assigned to it in the order under reply, that it has no existence except in his person. The Educational Sections were incorporated in the Congress in consequence of the deep and well-proved interest which the natives of this and other cities take in the education now given to their children and is partly a consequence of the Memorial which the Anjuman addressed to Sir Henry Durand in 1870. The Section on English Text-books was specially urged by native Education Officers. The Congress is not one for the mastic "Social Science" or for purely speculative questions. On the contrary, its objects are practical; they refer to matters in which not only Educational Officers may take a legitimate interest, but also every Department of the State and in which, above all, the people themselves have the greatest stake. In fact, mere theoretical disquisitions, against which His Honor warns the Anjuman in para. 3 of the Order under reply, though they seem to be the only ones to be allowed to it in future in para. 6, are not the object of the Anjuman and if it admits archæological or agricultural papers, it is with the distinct aim of the promotion of these specialities, irrespective of any Department, though always welcoming outside support and rejoicing at outside success. The Anjuman deeply regrets that, after its great sacrifices of time, labor and money and after the unparalleled munificence of Native Chiefs and other Members, His Honor should consider that "the class among the native population which can regard the Educational policy of Government with any intelligent interest and sympathy is exceedingly small," especially as it is the special aim of the Anjuman to increase this class and to give full effect to the Educational Despatch of 1854, the Charter of Indian Education. Nor can the Anjuman conceal from itself that there are not only officials in this country, whose cultivation and intelligence are undoubted, but also Members of the Bar, of the European and Native Press, the higher Staff of the Railways, Head Masters of Grant-in-aid Schools, native gentlemen, European Bankers and Merchants and, above all, the Missionary body, among whose numbers, intelligent and cultivated men may be found, whose opinions may be deserving of His Honor's consideration or stand high in public estimation. The Anjuman, however, regrets to understand that the opinions even of officials, who are admitted to possess intelligence and cultivation, are unwelcome to Government. It is convinced that these officials, whose support has been so valuable in the past, would not have withdrawn from the Congress of their own accord. Indeed, out of 200 Members that were proposed, only 7 declined to act before the issue of the Government Order and those were gentlemen in the immediate entourage of the Director of Public Instruction or belonging to the Secretariat. The Anjuman also points with pride to the eminent men on the sections of the congress who are known to possess special experience in the subjects entrusted to them and who are not likely to be swayed by the pronounced opinion of any one, unless they agree with it after careful consideration.

This Society was perhaps somewhat hasty in its assumption that the proposed Congress would certainly secure the support of the Government and of the head of the Educational Department, but it still hopes that the refusal to entertain its application to permit officers of the Educational Department to proceed to Lahore in order to take part in the Congress, is due only to some misapprehension of its object and aims. The object of the Congress in so far as it *professes to deal* with Educational questions, is simply to obtain a consensus of opinion from all those interested in these matters and this not in any spirit of hostility to the Educational Officers, whose desire to raise the standard of their department is not doubted, but in the hope of provoking opinions which the Government and officers of the Educational Department may hold worthy of their careful consideration. Moreover, it was hoped, that the Congress would result in a more wide-spread interest in the promotion of science and education, and thus secure to the Educational Department and to the University College a measure of sympathy which could hardly fail to be encouraging.

Sir Donald McLeod occasionally presided over meetings of the Anjuman and even honored its conversaziones with his presence. It is believed, and Mr. Egerton's career as Vice-President of the University College corroborates the general impression, that he was specially selected for that post by Sir Donald McLeod, because himself a warm supporter of the founders of the movement, whose keynote is "Native Self Government in matters of education" in fulfilment of the Educational Despatch of 1854.

In England, France, Germany, Austria and other civilized countries, Congresses of School-masters and others interested in Education, constantly meet in order to discuss both existing and contemplated Schemes of study. To these Congresses the above Governments or the civil authorities often afford every facility, for it is obvious that without such discussion the practical result of any measure of an educational character cannot be sufficiently ascertained. In none of these countries would such a Congress ever be suppressed.

In India, such Congresses are still more necessary, because of the reluctance which subordinate officials naturally feel in discussing the books or schemes of their superiors and an independent body is therefore necessary which, discussing them on purely scientific grounds and with a public-spirited aim, affords the safety of impersonality. The compulsory withdrawal of Educational Officers is, therefore, a great blow to the Educational Sections of the Congress.

The extract is long, but it will amply repay perusal. The reply of the Anjuman is firm, temperate, and dignified. We hope it will induce the Punjab Government to withdraw its interdiction. Already its letter has done mischief. The Anjuman says, "hitherto, it has been considered by officers that, although they are bound to obey all lawful orders and to pay the utmost deference to even a suggestion from the constituted authorities, they are not bound to concede to Government the right of interfering with their private pursuits or the expression of their opinions either in private or in concert with others, nor does the Anjuman now believe that your letter under reply contemplates any such interferance for the future. In the meanwhile, officials are withdrawing from the Congress generally and the Anjuman will find it difficult, if not impossible, to carry out His Honor's wish, unless the explicit instructions now solicited are given, that the Anjuman should devote itself to "the promotion of Agriculture, Art, Industrial studies,

Sanitation, Archæology, &c. &c," as the action of some officers and the general interpretation of the order has already led to the withdrawal of valuable papers from all sections by Educational and other Officers, some of which have been written, under the auspices of the Anjuman at the very suggestion of Government itself." Surely discussion is not sedition. Why should the Punjab Government seek to gag the mouths of its officers on questions, which are not of a political character, and the discussion of which does not imply political agitation? The proposed educational congress was of a scientific character, and if officers of Government both here and in England can without derelection of their official duties take part in the proceedings of scientific bodies, what reasonable objection could there be to officers of the Punjab attending an Educational Congress? We hope Lord Lytton, whose policy has been to govern India in the broad-day light of public opinion, will not tolerate this intolerance of the Punjab Government.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

THE FOLLOWING is the latest intelligence from Europe:

London 23rd February.—Russia demands from Turkey the cession of a portion of the Turkish fleet. The Porte has dissented, and states it will prefer to destroy the fleet. The peace conditions are not yet signed, and if the signature is delayed, the occupation of Constantinople by the Russians is expected.

24th—The Russian Government has withdrawn the demand made in the peace conditions for cession of a portion of the Turkish iron-clad squadron to Russia, the Porte engaging not to cede the fleet to England. The Grand Duke Nicholas and Safvet Pacha will meet to-morrow at Sanstefano, when conclusion of treaty of peace will follow.

WE PUBLISH in another column an advertisement of the Sheriff convening a Public Meeting of the inhabitants of Calcutta for the purpose of considering the propriety of petitioning Parliament on the subject of Indian expenditure and taxation. We believe the meeting will strongly urge the necessity of the reduction of Home Military charges and local army expenditure, and also of public works expenditure. We hope the meeting will lay due stress upon the principle of joint-partnership, on which the military expenditure is divided between England and India, a principle alike opposed to law and equity. There is no party question involved in the subject of the meeting, and we hope all classes of the community will combine and muster strong on the occasion. It is superfluous for us to mention that this demonstration will strengthen the hands of the Government of India, which has been long and strenuously fighting for reduction of the Home Military charges of India, but unfortunately without effect.

IT IS believed that His Excellency the Viceroy will probably leave Calcutta on the 18th proximo, unless His Excellency be detained by the Budget.

WE ARE glad to learn that the project of securing a local habitation for the Oriental Seminary is progressing satisfactorily. Since our last the following subscriptions have been promised:

Hon'ble Maharaja Jotendramohun Tagore	Rs.	2500
Maharaja Narendrakrishna	,,	1000
Babu Judulal Mullick	,,	1000

We shall be glad to register names.

INTIMATION has been received from the Secretary of State that the rate of exchange fixed for the adjustment of transactions between the Imperial and the Indian Government for the year 1878-79 is one shilling and nine pence.

INFORMATION was received by Government on Saturday evening that the Jawakis had submitted to the Government terms and their Jirga was coming into Peshawar on Saturday the 24th instant.

WE HAVE received the following appeal in the Lokenathpore case made by Troylokhnath Biswas and Ramgutty Kahar convicted by the Joint-Magistrate of Krishnaghur:

"Being too poor to defray all the expenses for making an appeal to the Sessions Judge of Nuddea, against the sentence of conviction, passed by Mr. Taylor Joint-Magistrate of Krishnaghar, we are obliged to appeal to the generous public for pecuniary help. The people of Krishnaghar have already given us help in a variety of ways and we ardently expect that similar help would be accorded to us by the patriotic and generous."

We hope this appeal will be responded to by the charitable public. We shall be glad to receive contributions, which will be forwarded to Babu Ramgopal Sanyal, who has kindly initiated the Defence Fund. Need we add that in the interests of Justice this appeal deserves the support of the generous public.

WE HAVE read with great pleasure the report of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. This Society is doing much good quietly and unobtrusively. Its objects are analogous to those of the District Charitable Society; and it is conducted we must confess much more economically than the other. The Roman Catholics, as almoners of public charities, manage things much better than other Christian public bodies with the same object in view.

THE RISING generation of Bengal ought to know the antecedents, past services and character of their Governor, and the *Sketch of the Official career* of the *Hon'ble Ashley Eden* C. S. I. published by Babu Kaliprossunno Dey, proprietor of the *National Magazine*, gives in a compendious form and in a pleasant style full particulars of the subject. We have often described Mr. Eden as a lover of freedom and a hater of oppression, and the account given in this book of the bold stand made by him as a fearless champion of the ryot and an implacable enemy of Planter oppression bears out what we say. We have often described him as a man with ready resources of mind and unflinching courage, and the sketch of his official life shews that he displayed these qualities of mind at the different points of his career, we mean in grappling with the Sonthal insurrection, and in carrying out the Sikkim and Bhutan Missions. We have often described him as a man, whose heart feels for the people of this country, and the account of the demonstration he made in the interest of the suffering coolies at Mauritius, whilst he was there on leave, affords a touching proof of the fact. We have often said that his *char darza* like those of Malcolm were *khola* to all, and the facts recorded in this sketch fully corroborate our assertion. Thus every phase of his career and character, so well known to the elder generation of our countrymen, has been fairly and faithfully depicted in this book. As the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal Mr. Eden has been placed in a trying position, particularly as his reign has unhappily hitherto been a reign of taxation, forced upon him by the Government of India, but we hope that the recollections of the past, so well gathered together in this book, will enable the Indian critic of the present day to do justice to the man, who now wield the destinies of sixty-two millions of Bengal.

MR. JAMES KIMBER, Engineer to the Calcutta Municipality, has forwarded to us a letter on canals in Bengal, which we regret we cannot publish *in extenso* for want of space. He notices three canal projects, *viz*:

1*st*.—Calcutta to Khoolna; Khoolna to Madareepore; Madareepore to Fureedpore, and Khoolna to Burisal.
2*nd*.—Calcutta to the Mudla River (Ship Canal).
3*rd*.—Calcutta to Kooshtea.

Mr. Kimber discusses the first at some length as the surveys for it had been made by himself. We are told that fourteen alternative schemes differing in engineering details have been worked out for this canal, or series of canals, estimated to cost in round numbers from 168 to 201 lacs of Rupees. Need we say that the enormous expense of the undertaking is against the project. In these days cheap works, extended usefulness, small profits but quick returns constitute the best recommendation of a work of public utility

WE UNDERSTAND that the report of the Sub-Committee on the First Arts and the B. A. courses gave rise to a prolonged discussion at the last meeting of the Faculty of Arts. Opinion was very much divided, and some of the Fellows were well convinced that the report was devised, not so much with a view to promote education, as to enable Government to reduce the expense, on account of the Colleges, by reducing the number of subjects to be taught and *pro tanto* of teachers. Eight months ago the Faculty of Medicine was subservient enough to reduce the number of lectures on Botany from 40 to 20 in a course of 5 years, not to relieve the boys of an unnecessary weight, but to suit the wishes of Government which could not spare the services of Dr. King for more frequent lectures; and the report of the Sub-Committee was, it was evident, another move in the same direction. The plea got up of giving the boys freedom of choice to provide for their mental peculiarities was most unmercifully exposed. It was shown that the advantage would be all on the side of the teachers, and not of the taught. If the heads of a college provided a teacher for Botany or Analytical Geometry only, no option on the part of the student would avail him in the least: he would have Hobson's choice of what was provided, and never have the ghost of an option. The University has no longer the independent element which characterised it in the days of Dr. Duff, Dr. Oldham and others, and by adroit manipulation at elections the heads of departments have been made as intensely official as possible, so that there cannot be another chance of "want of accord" between the local Government and the University like what became manifest in the days of Sir George Campbell in *re* Hindustani *vrs*. Urdu. Still there are a few who have the courage of their opinions, though wanting in the prestige of office. These were not at all disposed to sacrifice the interests of education to official policy or expediency, but wanting influence, they failed to coin the *apka wastas* on their side. The result was that the First Arts Course was divided into two, a literary and a scientific branch; the former comprising English, History, and Classics, and the latter, English, History, and Mathematics, with two other optional subjects in each branch to be hereafter decided upon. There was no time to take up the rest of the report.

THE *Calcutta Gazette* notifies the appointment of Kumar Rameshar Sing, brother of the Maharaja of Durbhanga, to the Civil Service under the nomination system. This appointment we must confess has taken the native public by surprise. It does not fulfil the conditions on which nominations to the Civil Service are to be made. The Maharaja of Durbhanga is the first landholder in the Bengal provinces, and it took us not a little by surprise when we saw it stated that his brother, who has we believe a personal income of about two lacs of rupees per annum, should accept service. But this is a matter for the Kumar to consider. Possibly a single rebuff, for many of which he must be prepared in an official career, may lead him to change his mind and throw up his appointment. But on public grounds we are constrained to say we cannot support this appointment. The law requires that the nominee should be of "proved merit and ability," but the Kumar so far as we are aware has not even passed the entrance examination. He is it is true an intelligent young man, and speaks English and writes English letters well, but the ability to hold a *tete-a-tete* and to write *chits* in good English does not constitute liberal English education. The Indian Civil Service has been known as the highly educated service; culture, breadth of mind, and good general information are essential to maintain its high spirit and character. Mere birth without intellect would be like the Dead Sea apple—gloss without but rottenness within. We do not know on what principles the new system of nomination will be grounded; if the door of competition be kept open as now, we have no objection to selection as a supplementary measure to draw men of birth and position, but let it be combined with competition. Let the candidates be first selected, and let there be a competition among them, and then let those who pass the test be selected. If the service be made only the guinea's stamp, it will we fear soon become the receptacle of ninies born with silver spoons in their mouths.

PUBLIC EXPECTATION had pointed to Mr. Chapman as the probable successor of Sir Edward Bayley as a member of the Supreme

Council, but we are sorry to learn that he is doomed to disappointment. We are, however, glad to learn that the choice of the Secretary of State has fallen upon one, who is also eminently qualified to fill the high position to which he has been called—we allude to Mr. Rivers Thompson, who we understand has been appointed Member of the Governor General's Council in the room of Sir Edward Bayley. Mr. Thompson is a man of great ability, but he works unseen. He was the chief strength of Sir Richard Temple's Bengal administration as long as he was here. Amiable, generous, and thoroughly conscientious he brings a high character to bear on the deliberations of the Supreme Council. It affords to us great satisfaction to note that in this instance the claims of long-neglected Bengal to a representation in the Supreme Council have been recognized by Her Majesty's Government. We understand that Mr. Aitchison goes to British Burma.

WE ARE glad to observe that the attention of the Lieutenant Governor has been directed to the administration of public hospitals and dispensaries. Referring to the General Hospital, upon which a Committee of Enquiry was appointed, the Lieutenant Governor says :

The report of that Committee disclosed some very remarkable figures. It was shown that between 1871 and 1872 with an increase of 21 in the daily average number of European in-door patients, there was a rise in the cost of European medicines from Rs 6,717 to Rs 11. 3 8; that, while the total daily average of sick was about the same in 1873 as in 1870, the cost of European medicines was Rs. 14 453, against Rs. 6,426 ; and that in 1874, while the gross daily average of all in-door and out-door patients was one less than the daily average of in-door patients, all Europeans, in 1872, the cost of European medicines was Rs. 17,804, against Rs. 11,308. The Committee submitted no explanation of the causes of this extraordinary increase, while the solution suggested by the Surgeon-General was found to be erroneous. The Lieutenant-Governor therefore deemed it necessary to desire that the subject should be thoroughly examined by the Committee to which the enquiry regarding the Sealdah Hospital had been entrusted, assisted by an experienced officer of the Accounts Department. To this course the Surgeon-General demurred, on the ground that it would be "unfair to the Superintendent, who has been hitherto encouraged in a very liberal expenditure, to overhaul his management upon totally opposite principles, without affording him the opportunity of changing the system, so as to bring it into greater agreement with the rigid economy required under the new *regime*." The Lieutenant-Governor has first to mark that this plea begs the whole question of the causes of the particular increase to which attention was specially directed. Nothing that has yet come to light has shown that any encouragement was held out to the Superintendent (Dr. Ewart) in the matter of an excessive expenditure of European medicines; nor is it possible to conceive how any encouragement had such been given, could justify the administrative head of a great institution in more than doubling the average expenditure on European medicines in the course of three years. Dr. Ewart claims to have shaped his administration generally on certain orders recorded by Sir Richard Temple in September 1874 and March 1875 ; but those orders had no reference whatever to the expenditure of medicines, and they were issued after the expiry of the period during which that circumstances which, in Mr. Eden's opinion require investigation occured. The Lieutenant-Governor has no intention of prejudging the case : but he considers that the figures above quoted are such as call for careful examination with the view as much of rectification in the future as of explanation in the past. While the Lieutenant-Governor readily admits that the officers officiating as heads of the hospitals at the present moment have done much in the last few months to reduce expenditure, the enquiries which he has prosecuted into the subject of hospital and medical expenditure generally have confirmed him in the apprehension expressed in the Resolution above referred to, and convince him that the whole question requires most careful and detailed consideration, in order that the rapidly increasing cost of this branch of the administration may be brought back to the limit, which it has long overstepped, of the actual wants of the public.

Accordingly His Honor has appointed a Committee consisting of the following gentlemen :

Mr. J. O'Kinealy		*President*
Mr. D. M. Barbour	}	*Members.*
Surgeon-Major A. J. Payne... ...		
" " J. M. Coates		
" " J. J. Jones		
" " S. Coull Mackenzie ...		
Mr. C. Macaulay, *Secretary*		

The Committee is fairly constituted, and we hope they will go to work in the same uncompromising spirit which animates the Lieutenant Governor.

REVIEW.

The History of the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi, held on the 1st January 1877, including Historical Sketches of India and her Princes past and present. By Talboys Wheeler. London.

THIS is an imperial volume. Imperial the subject it treats of, imperial the scenes it describes, imperial the characters it pourtrays, and imperial the illustrations with which it is embellished, it is fully worthy of the imperial occasion, of which it is the history. Mr. Wheeler has performed his task well and admirably. "An Imperial Assemblage," says Mr. Wheeler "is one of the oldest institutions in India. From the remotest antiquity the Rajahs and princes of India have assembled to celebrate the establishment of a new empire, on the occasion of a new empire, or the accession of a new suzerain. The story of such gatherings is told in the earliest traditions of the two famous Hindu epics—the Ramayana and Mahabharata. To this day the memories are household words throughout India. In the age of Rajput sovereignty such meetings were known as Rajasuyas and Aswamedhas. In the age of Mahamadan rule they were known by the name of Durbars." Of Delhi Mr. Wheeler says : "It is associated with nearly every era in the history of the past,—Rajput, Mahammadan, and Mahratta. Its streets and bazaars have grown up in historic times; their story is told in written annals. They stand in the midst of relics which belong to the remotest antiquity; the remains of a metropolis which may claim to be coeval with the oldest cities in the ancient world. The ruins of Indra-prastha, the "precinct of Indra," lie buried beneath the neighbouring mounds. The Kings, the nobles, the once teeming population have shrivelled into dust and ashes. The traditions are preserved to this day in the Hindu epic of the Mahabharata. Delhi and its surroundings are a monument of Indra-prastha. The legends of Indra-prastha and Delhi are for ever bound up with the history of India." After giving a short sketch of the rise and fall of the Hindu and Mahomedan dynasties, our author gives a brief survey of the progress of British Power in the East. He then comes to the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi, held on the 1st January 1877, which he calls a Festival of Peace. He says : "It has not been held at the close of a victorious war. It has been held in the midst of a tranquility which, but for the exceptional outbreak in 1857, has been maintained in India for sixty years. The Imperial Assemblage has inaugurated the Queen of Great Britain as the Empress of India. The Empire of the Queen is one of peace at home and good will towards all nations. In India, ancient foes have become staunch friends. The old wars are forgotten. The proclamation has not been a pæan of triumph ; it has been associated with pardon and amnesty for those who had gone astray! No memories of conquest or defeat have clouded the rejoicings of the Chiefs and people of India." He then goes on :

An Imperial Assemblage was thus a happy opportunity of celebrating an important political and historical event. It was the one thing that the princes of India could thoroughly understand. It was the only thing wanting to establish the reality of the British Empire in the hearts of the people of India as the representation of the Imperial power which traces back its origin to Indra and the sun. The rumours of a general gathering of all the rulers of India, European and Native, at the same spot, removed every shadow of suspicion or fear. The enthusiasm of chief and nobles became more and more marked as the preparations at Delhi were noised abroad. They were eager to learn the details of the proceedings that were to inaugurate the new era. Princes who had never seen each other, or spoken to each other ; Rajputs, Mohammedans and Mahrattas, whose forefathers had fought each other for generations ; all agreed to meet together as friends under the peaceful shadow of British suzerainty ; to celebrate in common the assumption of the title of Empress of India by Her Magistrate the Queen. The Government of India began to fear that many would attend who could ill bear, the expenditure. Repeated orders were issued upon this point ; but few, if any, could be induced by fear of expense to forego an attendance which was regarded not only as an act of loyalty towards their august sovereign, but as the crowning event in the history of the British Empire.

Mr. Wheeler is not a brilliant word-painter, but we give the following as a specimen :

The morning was lovely, without a cloud. The rays of an Indian sun shone gaily upon the scene ; they were tempered by the cool breezes of a Delhi January. There was high holiday throughout the city. Every spot which commanded a view of the procession was thronged with visitors. Doors, windows, verandahs, and roofs of houses were crowded with spectators. Here and there the streets were adorned with flags and garlands. The Chandni Chouk was specially filled with people. Another vast throng was assembled on the Ridge. The most crowded place in all Delhi, were the towers and terraces of the great mosque of the Jumma Musjid. There were assembled all the foreign European settlements in the East ; all Deputations and princes and Governors, foreign Envoys from foreign states ; all the consuls for foreign nations ; all the titular Chiefs and guests of the different Governments in British India. The steps of the mosque were literally covered with a sea of heads. There was an interminable collection of turbans and head-dresses of every shape and colour. The owners sat unmoved for hours, waiting, with singular patience and silence of orientals, for the great procession to pass by.

Mr. Wheeler gives some interesting portraitures in miniature of the leading Native Princes and chiefs, which we regret we cannot reproduce for want of space. Our author thus concludes :

The Imperial Assemblage was confined to Delhi ; but the proclamation day was observed as a festival at every English station and Native Court throughout the Empire. Delhi was the centre of attraction ; there Her Majesty the Queen of the British Isles was proclaimed Empress of India before all the notables and feudatories of the Empire ; there the Viceroy of India and Governors of Presidencies received the high Officers of Government from every part of India, the Native Rulers, and the friendly Embassies sent from neighbouring countries, and dispensed princely hospitalities. Indeed, the hospitalities throughout the Imperial Assemblage were of a public character. Eighty guests were entertained by the Viceroy alone in his magnificent camp during the whole of the proceedings ; whilst a hundred and twenty often sat down to dinner. The Governors and Lieutenant Governors vied with each other in the decorations of their camps and extent of their hospitalities.

All this while the proclamation was being made, and rejoicings of the same character were being carried on in all parts of India ; from the Khyber Pass to the hills and Jungles of the eastern frontier ; from the slopes of the Himalayas to the fabled bridge of Rama between India and Ceylon.

It is needless to dwell on localities, for the festivities in India were all of the same loyal character. Tented pavilions were set up for the accommodation of select hundreds ; thousands of spectators crowded around in the open air especially in the Presidency towns of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay. The proclamation was read in English, and the Vernacular by the highest official at the station, or the political Officer at the Native Durbar. Salutes were fired, addressed were delivered, and the National Anthem resounded through the air. Then, as a general rule, there were sports, nautches, fireworks, illuminations and entertainments. The poor were feasted by thousands, sweetmeats were distributed amongst hosts of children. Subscriptions were spontaneously given by the wealthier clases to schools, hospitals and dispensaries. In one place liberal Zemindars sought to perpetuate the memory of the occasion by contributing thousands of rupees towards building a new school-house to perpetuate the nams of the Empress. At another locality it was resolved to build a bridge, and at another place to build a town-hall in commemoration of the event. At some towns, addresses were prepared by Natives of position for presentation to the Empress of Indiay At other, songs were composed and sung in celebration of the auspicious occasion.—

Thus throughout India, as Mr. Talboys Wheeler says, the Proclamation Day was observed as a Festival of Peace. He has done well in keeping a record of it in a form, pleasing to the eye, and fraught with interest for posterity. It is not an official record but has the stamp of official accuracy. It is a volume of which the great princes and noblemen, who took part in the Imperial drama of 1877, will doubtless keep a copy.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

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Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*February*, 20, 1878.

GENERAL.—Mr. E. W. Mofony, Commissioner of the Patna Division, is allowed thirty day's subsidiary leave, preparatory to retirement, with effect from the 15th proximo, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it,

Babu Grish Chunder Sarkar Fifth Special Commissioner, Chota Nagpore Tenures' Act, is allowed leave for one month and seven days under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Babu Nundjee, temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Palamow, Lohardugga, is appointed to act as Fifth Special Commissioner under the Chota Nagpore Tenures' Act during the absence, on leave, of Babu Grish Chunder Sarkar, or until further orders.

Babu Kustory Lall, Sub-Deputy Collector, Hazareebagh, is transferred temporarily to Palamow, in Lohardugga, *vice* Babu Nundjee.

Mr. H. M. Tobin, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Burdwan, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the Second Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors.

Moulvi Mahomed Serajul Huq, Sub-Deputy Collector, Doomka, is transferred to Deoghur.

Babu Shama Churn Das, Sub-Deputy Collector, Deoghur, is transferred to Doomka,

Mr. F. W. R. Cowley, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Shahabad, who reported his return from furlough on the 18th January 1878, is allowed subsidiary leave for fifteen days from that date to enable him to join his appointment.

Babu Uma Kant Das, Officiating Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Chittagong, having joined his appointment on the 5th December 1877, the unexpired portion of the leave granted to him under orders of the 13th August last, is cancelled.

With the sanction of the Governor-General in Council Koomar Rameshawara Sing is appointed, to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector of Durbhunga.

The following officers, connected with the Cuttack Cadastral Survey, are vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector under Act V (B. C.) of 1875 in the Cuttack district:—

Captain D C. Andrew, Officiating Deputy Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

Mr. C. David, Revenue Surveyor.

,, H. R. Littlewood, Revenue Surveyor.

Moulvi Mahomed Abdool Kader, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Jungypore Division of the Moorshedabad district, is transferred to the Sudder Station of the Cuttack district.

Babu Otool Chunder Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Balasore, on leave, is transferred to the Presidency Division, and is appointed to have charge of the Jungypore Division of the Moorshedabad district.

Mr. E. M Reily, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector in charge of the City Moorshedabad Division of the Moorshedabad district, is appointed to have charge of the Rampore Haut Division of that district.

Babu Ruttan Lal Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Moorshedabad, is appointed to have charge of the City Moorshedabad Division of that district.

Mr. R. H. Wilson is allowed leave for one month under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it on being relieved of his duties as Officiating Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, by Mr. H. L. Harrison.

Mr. R. Porch, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Noakholly, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the Third Grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 1st instant.

Mr C. W. Wilmot, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Deoghur, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is temporarily vested with the powers of a Settlement Officer under Regulation III of 1872 in that sub-division.

Mr. G. N Barlow, C. S. I., is appointed to be Commissioner of the Patna Division, with effect from the date on which Mr. E. W. Molony retires.

Mr. Barlow will continue to act until further orders as Commissioner of the Bhagulpore Division.

Mr. F. M. Halliday, Magistrate and Collector, Gya, is appointed to act as Commissioner of the Patna Division, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. G. N. Barlow, or until further orders.

Mr. G. S. Park, Magistrate and Collector, Sarun, is appointed to be a Magistrate and Collector of the First Grade *vice* Mr. G. N. Barlow.

Mr. F. Jones, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Tipperah, is promoted to the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors, *vice* Mr. G. S Park.

Mr. R. H. Pawsey, Officiating Magistrate and Collector Mymensingh, is appointed to be a Magistrate and Collector of the Third Grade, *vice* Mr. F. Jones. Mr. Pawsey will continue to act, until further orders, in the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

Mr. F. J. G. Campbell is promoted to the First Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice*, Mr. R. H. Pawsey. Mr. Campbell will continue to act, until further orders, as Additional District and Sessions Judge of Chittagong.

Mr. T. D. Beighton, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sulpigoree, on special duty, is appointed to be a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, *vice* Mr. F. J. G. Campbell. Mr. Beighton will continue to act, until further orders, in the First Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors.

Advertisements.

At 1 P.M. on Saturday the 9th March proximo,

AT THE EXCHANGE COMMERCIAL SALEROOMS,

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THE LARGE HOUSE AT SERAMPORE

(Well known as the residence of the former Editors of the *Friend of India*), together with the 21 biggahs 2 cottahs and 9 chittacks upon which it stands.

For farther particulars and conditions of sale apply to Messrs. SANDERSON & Co., Solicitors, Calcutta; or to Baboo ESHANCHUNDER MITTRA, Government Pleader, Hooghly.

Notice.

The following properties will be put up to sale at De. Burgh House, Shadhanpur, Burdwan, on Saturday the 2nd March next (19th Phalgun current Bengali) at 4 P. M.

	Names of Mehals.	Nature of Proprietorship to be sold.	Annual revenue or rent. Rs. As. P.	Where situated.
1.	Subhadrapur ..... Towjee No. 1654	Aymah	7 7 6	All in Thanah Gangoor, Chowky & Dist. Burdwan.
2.	Lot Katalia	Putnee	1708 9 7	
3.	Lot Semanji	Do.	3273 7 7	
4.	Kismat Kalantikri ...	Do.	400 2 1	
5.	Herkola	Do.	1649 0 0	
6.	Koly Kamalpur	Do.	71 10 9	
7.	Kismat [illegible] ...	Do.	417 1 0	
8.*	Kamalpur Sujhari...	Durpatnee....	666 8 0	
9.	Lot Nandan	Do.	810 0 0	

Besides these other properties *viz.* Lakraj lands, gardens and ponds in Sreedharpur.

* This if not sold on the 19th instant under a decree of the Sub-Judge of Burdwan.

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Ten per cent. Discount off the above Prices for Cash.

To W. J. CURTOYS, Esq.
Sheriff of Calcutta.

SIR.—We the undersigned request you will be so good as to convene at the Town Hall, a Public Meeting of the inhabitants of Calcutta, and its vicinity for the purpose of considering the propriety of petitioning Parliament on the subject of Indian expenditure and taxation.

We have the honor to be
SIR,
Your most Obedt. Servants.

Calcutta, the 16th Feby., 1878.

Jotendro Mohun Tagore.	Callykissen Tagore.
Norendro Krishna.	Damoodur Dass Burmon.
Komul Krishna.	Kissen Mohun Khettry.
Ameer Ali.	Prankissen Mookerjee.
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Bhuggobutty ChurnMullick.	Mooralydhur Sen.
Meer Mahomed Ally.	Obhoy Churn Goho.
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O. C. Dutt.	Doorga Churn Law.
Peary Chund Mittra.	Dwarkanauth Dutt.
Radha Romon Mittra.	Poorno Chunder Singh.
Aushootos Mullick.	Sreenauth Roy.
Nugender Chunder Ghose.	Pearymohun Roy.
Nundo Laul Mullick.	M. Ghose.
Rajendro Mullick.	A. M. Bose.
Sreenauth Chunder.	Doorgamohun Dass.
Greesh Chunder Dass.	Bhoobonmohun Doss.
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Madhub Chunder Sen.	Gooroodass Banerjee.
Sagore Dutt.	Mohineymohun Roy.
Baikunthanatha Bosu.	Serajul Islam.
Kaliprosunna Ghosh.	Nobogopal Mitter.
Greesh Chunder Ghose.	K. M. Banerjee.
Jodoolaul Mullick.	

In compliance with the foregoing requisition I do hereby convene a public meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Calcutta and its vicinity to be held at the Town Hall on Saturday the 2nd day of March next at 4 O'clock P. M.,

W. J. CURTOYS,
Sheriff.

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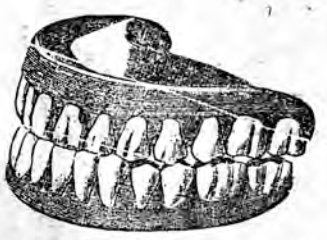

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